

HUMAN RIGHTS FOUNDATION of TURKEY TREATMENT and REHABILITATION CENTRES REPORT 2014





HRFT
Human Rights Foundation of Turkey

TREATMENT and REHABILITATION CENTRES REPORT 2014

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INTRODUCTION

Metin Bakkalci¹

Human Rights Foundation of Turkey (HRFT) has established in 1990, to provide physical and psychological treatment and rehabilitation to those who were subjected to torture and other cruel, inhuman, degrading treatment or punishment, and to document human rights violations.

This service of HRFT aimed at providing solutions to physical, psychological and social problems of the torture victims is rendered with a multidisciplinary approach by tens and even hundreds of professional and voluntary teams from various specialization areas, primarily health care professionals.

The HRFT has always attached importance to improving the quality of the treatment and rehabilitation service ever since its establishment. With this aim, it has organized various training, research and other activities at the national and international levels and has functioned like a school in documenting the torture traces and treating the torture victims.

The pioneering role of the HRFT in the development of the Istanbul Protocol which is the only international reference guide for the effective investigation and documentation of torture and other cruel, inhuman, degrading treatment or punishments, its adoption by the UN and afterwards its worldwide promotion and training activities, is the most concrete example for this.

Besides the treatment and rehabilitation service, the HRFT has provided voluntary legal support to the torture victims and their lawyers with the aim of prevention of torture. The HRFT has also developed an objective and reliable system for the documentation of grave/serious human rights violations, primarily of torture, and has accumulated a substantial amount of knowledge.

Many of the victims of torture and ill-treatment are also affected by the other elements of the sophisticated traumas. With the awareness that more than medicine will be needed for the most comprehensive treatment possible, the HRFT has been working

¹ Coordinator of Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres, M.D.

on the development of a better integrated and multi-disciplinary programme for also coping with the complex and social trauma problems since 2004.

The HRFT is continuing its works to provide treatment and rehabilitation services to torture victims in five treatment and rehabilitation centres in Adana, Ankara, Diyarbakır, İstanbul and İzmir. Since its establishment until the end of 2014, the HRFT served 15.178 torture victims and their relatives in five HRFT centres.

In the light of the information we gathered over the years, it has been predicted that approximately 350 torture victims and their relatives would apply to HRFT. However, we had 787 applicants in the year of 2013.

On the other hand, to be able to accept applicants from those provinces without a treatment and rehabilitation centre of HRFT, “Five Cities” project has continued in 2014, as it did since 1993. Within the scope of this project, the number of applicants in 2010 was 57; 118 in 2011; 143 in 2012; 150 in 2013 and 147 in 2014. Although 50 applications were predicted each year, there is an increase in the number of applicants over the last three years, which is mainly due to the condensed works of HRFT Diyarbakır centre in the nearby provinces.

Within the “Five Cities” project, there were 129 (95 in 2013) applications to Diyarbakır centre, 13 (42 in 2013) applications to Adana centre and 5 (13 in 2013) applications to Ankara centre. This situation reveals the necessity to improve the programmes in forthcoming periods for Diyarbakır and nearby cities where severe and grave human rights violations are intensely taking place in relation to the Kurdish issue.

Again, the programme of “Mobile Medical Team” which was initiated in 2008, has continued in 2014 for the regions without any HRFT centre where severe/grave torture and human rights violations are taking place.

With its limitations, we enhanced our psychosocial works which are being offered to Ezidi people who resides in Diyarbakır Fidanlık camp, Diyarbakır, Batman and Siirt.

Within the scope of “Treatment and Rehabilitation Project”, many educational (İstanbul Protocol trainings in Turkey and abroad; psychotherapy training; educational programs about tear inducing chemicals; training for gender based violence in the context of conflict, Eighth International Psychological Trauma Symposium, etc.) and scientific (“22 Years of Inclination of Torture in Turkey” and “An Identification Method for Torture Research: Study of Bone Scintigraphy” which both are projected to be completed by the end of 2014; publication of previously completed scientific works) works have been carried out in 2014.

Along with the treatment and rehabilitation workings, activities for the purpose of prevention of torture have been strengthened.

Within this framework, total of 107 alternative forensic medical report/epicrisis have been prepared in 2014. Also, some works have been done to actualize an operative National Prevention Mechanism which is a necessity according to the United Nations Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (OPCAT) which

proposes an important potentiality in preventing the torture. Moreover, we have made provisions for the “Fourth Periodic Report about Turkey of the United Nations Committee against Torture” and “Alternative Report for the United Nations Human Rights Council Universal Periodic Review”.

Also within the scope of aforementioned “Torture and Rehabilitation Project”, we enhanced our collaborative works with fellow associates in Palestine and Israel in solidarity.

A five-year HRFT Strategic Plan and a working plan for the period of 2015-2019 was formed in order to enrich and develop our works.

In order to attain the final goal mentioned above, its mission is to contribute to the efforts of prevention of torture in all aspects of life and to help and support the torture victims in coping with the trauma and in reaching a state of complete physical, psychological and social well-being. In other words, it is to create an environment of “social reparation” for the individuals and communities whose dignity is trampled underfoot due to the severe human rights violations they have suffered.

Surely, all of these work, are the very products of devoted Founders’ Committee members, members of Executive Board and hundreds of mindful people from different professional fields and social groups who are working together for the same purpose across the country, primarily the medical staff, lawyers and defenders of human rights across the country

We are expressing our gratitude to everyone who have contributed and be on our side, and to all relevant institutions, mainly Human Rights Association and Turkish Medical Association who have supported us since the beginning

Ankara, March 2015

**HRFT's
Treatment and Rehabilitation
Centres Report**

**2014
Evaluation Results**

EVALUATION RESULTS OF THE HRFT'S TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION CENTRES FOR THE YEAR 2014¹

INTRODUCTION

As Human Rights Foundation of Turkey, we would like to present a general introduction to the topic of struggle against torture, before the evaluation of the year 2014.

In this regard, "The Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment" which the United Nations admitted in 1984 and went in effect in 1987, absolutely prohibits torture.

This prohibition is a "mandatory regulation" within the scope of international law. Thus, there cannot be an exception or a drawback for any government. The prohibition was recorded in July 11, 2002 by the Council of Europe (of which Turkey is a member) in the fourth article of "Guidelines on Human Rights and The Fight against Terrorism":

"The use of torture or of inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment is absolutely prohibited, in all circumstances, and in particular during the arrest, questioning and detention of a person suspected of or convicted of terrorist activities, irrespective of the nature of the acts that the person is suspected of or for which he/she was convicted."

The right to not to be subjected to torture and ill-treatment is a common right of the international community. Because, this right protects each individual's dignity, and their physical and psychological integrity, and also the humanity and human dignity which are shared values.

However, unfortunately, torture is being used by many governments across the world as an inhumane punishment and a mean to intimidation and suppression.

In this sense, it is important not only to prevent torture, but also to provide physical and psychological treatment and rehabilitation to those who had been subjected to torture. Especially after "The Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment" went in effect, the treatment and

¹ This report is prepared based on the data obtained from the HRFT Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres. Since its establishment, HRFT has always stated that the number of people who have applied to our centres and the total number of those subjected to torture and other cruel, inhuman, degrading treatment or punishment in Turkey can not necessarily be directly related. However, this does not change the fact that the annual statistical distribution of the HRFT applicants, who have been subjected to torture and other cruel, inhuman, degrading treatment or punishment, is significant in an of itself as data.

rehabilitation works became widespread. Today, there are more than 200 treatment centres around the world which provides help to torture survivors.

The reports of international human rights organizations show that torture is being practiced not only in the countries of military dictatorship and authoritarian regime, but also by the states which are assumed to be developing themselves to be more democratic. Especially the processes after September 11, 2001, normalized those attitudes and politics which are legitimizes torture and protects torturers, with the justification of “providing security against terrorism”. It is quite worrying after these efforts to legitimize torture –as many national and international researches and works showed-, that the torture became acceptable for the public opinion with the justification of anti-terrorism; that it is being used to intimidate and suppress for the parties of war, occupation and internal conflicts; and that it is being practiced on a mass scale in the civil war context in Syria.

In addition, it is more worrying that the torturers go unpunished by the authorities; legislative regulations that make torture possible; benefiting from science, technology, medicine and psychiatry to develop torture methods; torture trainings; and validating industrial production and trade of instruments of torture.

“The Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment” was admitted by Turkey in 1988, and Turkey prohibited torture in the Constitution and the Penal Law. Nevertheless, torture is still being systematically used by the public officials.

However, a distinct characteristic of the last years is that physical torture is being practiced not only in official detention centres, but mostly in outdoors, police cars and during the demonstration/protests. Torture has a new dimension in which the law enforcers subject people to tear gas, pressurized water and plastic bullets during demonstrations and protests, and also to severe beating during detention.

Alongside, torture is being practiced in official detention centres, which including mostly psychological torture methods. In short, torture in the last years, is mostly being used not debriefing, but to terrorize, threaten, punish or dominate.

In the past years, the police quite violently and unofficially intervened firstly to the local demonstrations and meeting related to the Kurdish issue, and secondly to the nation-wide demonstrations and meetings, by using extremely non-proportional power. This violence which was used not as a procedural act, but was used to punish and to take revenge, cannot be explained within the scope of the Law of Police Powers. In contrast, this is a clear violation of the torture ban.

Accordingly, law enforcers’ usage of power should be in compliance with the law, compulsory and proportional according to United Nations Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials, United Nations Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials, legal precedents of European Court of

Human Rights and the advisory jurisdiction [(2001)10] of the European Code of Police Ethics of Council of Europe. Any practice of law enforcers violating these standards must be evaluated as a violation of the prohibition of torture, the freedom to expression and demonstrate and other fundamental rights and freedoms.

Lastly, as the United Nations General Assembly decided on February 14, 2014 (A/REC/68/156), it was stated that the General Assembly is “deeply concerned about all acts which can amount to torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment committed against persons exercising their rights of peaceful assembly and freedom of expression in all regions of the world”

Another aspect of police violence is the intense usage of tear gas during meetings, demonstrations and protests. As response to many applications to European Court of Human Rights, the court decided that the excessive usage of tear gas violates the third article of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) which regulates the prohibition of torture and ill-treatment, and sentenced Turkey. Again, as the European Court of Human Rights verdict on November 27, 2012 for the “Case of DİSK and KESK v. Turkey” (No. 38676/08); usage of gas bomb was not necessary and appropriate, referred to previous verdicts for the similar cases and remarked potential and severe health problems that the usage of gas bomb may cause. For the “Case of Ali Güneş v. Turkey” (No. 9829/07) and the “Case of Abdullah Yaşa and Others v. Turkey” (No. 44827/08), the European Court of Human Rights criticized the violent and inappropriate usage of power of law enforcers, stated the severe dangers of usage of gas bomb for the health of individuals, referred relevant regulations about the gas bomb and expressed their concern about the practical reality.

The European Court of Human Rights clearly remarks that the police intervention should be necessary and appropriate even in the unpeaceful and illegal demonstrations and concordantly, that targeting demonstrators with gas capsules is a violation of prohibition of torture.

Nevertheless, there is no legal regulation in Turkey about the usage of tear inducing chemicals during demonstrations and protests. Whereas, the usage of these chemicals should be strictly regulated and the discretionary power of law enforcers must be minimum. Also, law enforcers do not go through a training/education about the usage of gas bombs. Until today, there is no public officer or law enforcement officer who had been imposed sanctions for arbitrary usage of gas bomb.

Other prominent practices recently, are to forcibly taking blood and saliva samples with the “Permission of Prosecution Office” and again forcibly stripping naked for the purpose of searching. These practices are also clear violations of prohibition of torture according to the ECHR, legal precedents of The European Court of Human Rights, medical codes of conduct and the domestic law.

Also, there is a significant increment in the practices of subjecting children to torture, ill-treatment and rape in prisons. Above all, poor conditions in almost full prisons in terms of accommodation, ventilation, hygiene, health and communication, can be evaluated as collective torture. In addition to this, stripping naked to search, isolated rooms and the violence taking place in blind spots without any surveillance during the entrance to the prison and during there and backs to the lawyer and family meetings, hospital and court, are also widely used torture and ill-treatment methods in prisons.

Those who were sentenced with nonjudicial punishment and aggravated life imprisonment, are being severely isolated in prison, which causes serious problems and impaired psychological integrity. Any expostulation of these people to protect their dignity causes much worse consequences such as extended exposure to torture or nonjudicial punishment.

Likewise, the conditions of seriously ill detainees and prisoners can easily be described as torture of themselves. Military prisons and correction facilities are still far from any appropriate supervision even though the consistent claims of torture and ill-treatment against these institutions.

The fundamental reason of the current situation of torture in Turkey is the existence of a culture of impunity which is in contradiction with the very absolute nature of the prohibition of torture. The primary factor that strengthens and generalizes this culture is the mentality and approach of political authorities. In other words, the culture of impunity is a government policy. Since the coup d'état in September 12, 1980, torture is not being effectively investigated, the investigations are being left unfinished due to the period of limitation, and there is a lack of effective and appropriate trial process for the cases at the stage of prosecution. All these evidently show the continuity of the culture of impunity.

Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, who came into power with discourses indicating no tolerance for torture, has forgot these discourses as primary minister, and it is quite concerning that he is loudly and openly standing behind the police violence and even promoting it for years, especially after Gezi Park protests. His phrase of "I will not let them harm the police" is a clear manifestation of the aforementioned culture and his standing on this issue.

Under these circumstances, the claims of torture against public officers which are not being investigated, lack of efficiency and independency in committed investigations, need for permission to judge public officers who practiced torture, postponements of sentences and the prosecutors' and the adjudicators' subjective and biased mentality, are nonissuable or not effable.

Those torture survivors who are filing a complaint against a public officer who practiced torture, are immediately facing a counter complaint on the grounds of "insulting a public officer, resisting, meanwhile injuring and damaging public property".

Lawsuits against torturers are usually go unpunished while lawsuits against torture survivors are being concluded in a short time with heavy penalties. There have been no appropriate conclusions in those lawsuits against severe human rights violations which are breaking the right to live and the prohibition of torture during the Gezi Park protests. The results are unknown for many official complaints regarding this subject.

In the scope of The Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture (OPCAT) of United Nations -which is a quite effective tool for prevention of torture- a independent national torture prevention mechanism has been converted to a sub-unit of the National Human Rights Institution of Turkey to which all of its members are being directly assigned by the government itself, by violating universal norms and principles (most importantly Paris Principles) despite of all the objections and criticisms of national and international relevant institutions and persons. With a mechanism that is directly dependent on a Council of Ministers, it would be non-realistic to assert that there is an proactive torture prevention system Turkey. We hope that those who have political power will take a firm action to prevent torture in 2015.

EVALUATION

Since 1990, the Human Rights Foundation of Turkey (HRFT) has been dedicated to providing cohesive physical, psychological and social treatment and rehabilitation to those injured as a result of torture and ill-treatment while in official or unofficial detention, custody or incarceration. Our experiences till today and scientific studies have also shown that torture effects those close to the victim, too. In short, torture has both direct and indirect effects on public health. For this reason, it must be assumed that the relatives and friends of torture victims will be a part of the solution for psychological problems associated with the traumatic experience.

HRFT continues to conduct treatment and rehabilitation activities through our centres in the provinces of Ankara, İstanbul, İzmir, Adana and Diyarbakır. In these centres, teams of general practitioners, family physicians, psychiatrists, social workers and medical secretaries are currently working in collaboration with specialist physicians from all branches. The teams at the centres coordinate every stage of the treatment process. The results of this work and evaluations have been documented and publicised in annual reports.

HRFT conducts its work in light of international human rights conventions, whether the Republic of Turkey is a signatory or not.

HRFT's work is based on projects. The projects prepared are based on human rights, communicated to non-governmental international organisations and implemented through provision of support. The HRFT is committed to refusing any offers of grants or support from any government; institution or individual engaged in practices contrary to human rights values.

In order to meet the treatment needs of those living in and around the provinces where there is no HRFT centre, the “5 Cities Project” has been implemented in Gaziantep, Urfa, Hatay, Malatya and Adıyaman and is now spreading to all regions of Turkey. This Project is being carried out by the HRFT in cooperation with local medical associations, Human Rights Association (HRA) offices, bar associations and other civil society organisations. With the help of this Project, torture victims will obtain information about the activities and services provided by the HRFT and the financial and social support enabling them to access HRFT’s services.

HRFT has created a humanitarian-medical institution by which it coordinates multidisciplinary activities of health professionals from different backgrounds and branches who share a common view regarding the treatment a torture victim as an ethical responsibility of health professionals.

Throughout the 24 years since its foundation, HRFT has got the total number of 15.178 applicants. This number seems like a very large proportion of the community in terms of torture treatment and rehabilitation. However when viewed differently, it in fact constituted a fairly small portion of torture victims in Turkey.

METHODOLOGY

In 2014, 787 people applied to the Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in Adana, Ankara, Diyarbakır, İstanbul and İzmir. 27 of these applicants were acquaintances or relatives of torture survivors. The following evaluation presents information obtained from interviews and medical examinations from 756 of the 787 applicants who stated that they had been subjected to torture and ill-treatment (760 applicants were subjected to torture, however 4 applicants were not included due to the lack of datum). Physicians and social workers working together with consultant physicians at our centres obtained the information evaluated from interviews, physical and other diagnostic examinations conducted with applicants.

After being collected in application files and forms designed for data preservation, the data was then entered into a specially developed computer programme called the “Human Rights Foundation of Turkey Applicant Recording”. The data gathered in this programme was analysed by various data processing and statistical programmes and it was evaluated in two major phases. Analogue data was transferred through the appropriate statistical programmes and the corresponding graphs and tables were obtained.

The work of the Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 has been evaluated in two sections. The first section includes interpretation and evaluation of the data regarding all of the applicants in 2014. In order to gain an accurate profile of those tortured and ill-treated in Turkey currently, the second section only contains information from applicants who stated they were subjected to torture and ill-treatment in 2014.

In these two sections, the first chapter will examine the social and demographic characteristics of the applicants, the second chapter will analyse the results obtained from the narratives of the torture and ill-treatment, while the third chapter will evaluate the medical processes of the applicants. The last chapter of the first section will present the health status of the applicants, their illnesses and their reasons, and the results of the treatment and rehabilitation activities carried out.

NUMBER AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE APPLICANTS

Before the evaluation of the social and demographic data obtained from the applicants, information on the following points will be provided: the distribution of the applicants according to the Human Rights Foundation of Turkey (HRFT) centres and the months in which the applications were made, the number and distribution of applicants stating that they had been subjected to torture and ill-treatment in detention in 2014 and the channels of contact which directed the applicants to the HRFT.

756 people who had applied to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres stating that they had been subjected to torture and ill-treatment were evaluated in 2014. 27 people applied as relatives of torture survivors and asked to receive treatment. These people are not included in the following sections. The distribution of the applicants in the year 2014 according to the centres of the foundations is presented in Table 1.

Table 1: The distribution of the applicants in 2014 according to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres

HRFT Centre	Number of the Torture Survivors	Number of Relatives of Torture Survivors	Total Number of Applicants
Adana	39	1	40
Ankara	30	2	32
Diyarbakır	314	7	321
İstanbul	282	16	298
İzmir	91	1	92
Total	756	27	783

Among 756 applicants, 250 people (34,4%) stated that they had been subjected to torture and ill-treatment in detention (TID) in the year of 2014. Those numbers were:

- 500 of 844 applicants (59%) in 2013,
- 236 of 506 applicants (47%) in 2012,
- 224 of 484 applicants (46%) in 2011,

- 160 of 343 applicants (47%) in 2010.

Due to the Gezi Park protests, the number of applicants who had been subjected to torture in the year of application was high in 2013. The decrease in the number of applicants who had been subjected to torture in the year of application in 2014 can be explained by the increased applications which were made by those persons who was imprisoned before, within the scope of their political activities (mainly Group of Communities in Kurdistan/Koma Civakên Kurdistan-KCK operations) and got out of the prison in 2014. The detailed comparison of the years 2013 and 2014 will be included in the second section.

When looked at the distribution of applicants to the HRFT centres, one can see that there is a decrease in the applications to Adana and Ankara centres while the applications to Diyarbakır centre increased at the rate of 46% in comparison to 2013. Main reason for this, as mentioned before, within the scope of Group of Communities in Kurdistan-KCK operations started in April 14, 2009, those who were arrested were collectively released in 2014. These collective releases were caused by a new legal regulation which limits the imprisonment period for 5 years. 230 of 314 applicants (73%) who applied to the Diyarbakır Centre, were among those who were released from prison. More information about those applicants will be presented in next sections.

There was a significant increase in the number of relatives/friends of torture survivors who applied to HRFT İstanbul Centre. Almost all applicants to İzmir, Adana and Ankara Centres were torture survivors themselves. The number of applicants who were subjected to torture in the year 2014, increased in İzmir and Diyarbakır Centres. 54 of 90 applicants (59%) to the İzmir Centre was subjected to torture in 2014 as a result of gradually hardened police violence to demonstrations in İzmir. In 2014, a group of students in Ege University were subjected to severe police violence during their protest.

The distribution of applicants in 2014 according to the HRFT's centres they applied, is given in Table 2.

Table 2: The distribution of the applicants who stated that they had been subjected to torture and ill-treatment in detention in 2014 according to HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres, and their proportion to all applicants

HRFT Centre	Total Number of Applicants	Number of TID* Applicants in 2014	Proportion to all Applicants (%)
Adana	39	14	36
Ankara	30	14	47
Diyarbakır	314	24	8
İstanbul	282	154	55
İzmir	91	54	59
Total	756	260	34

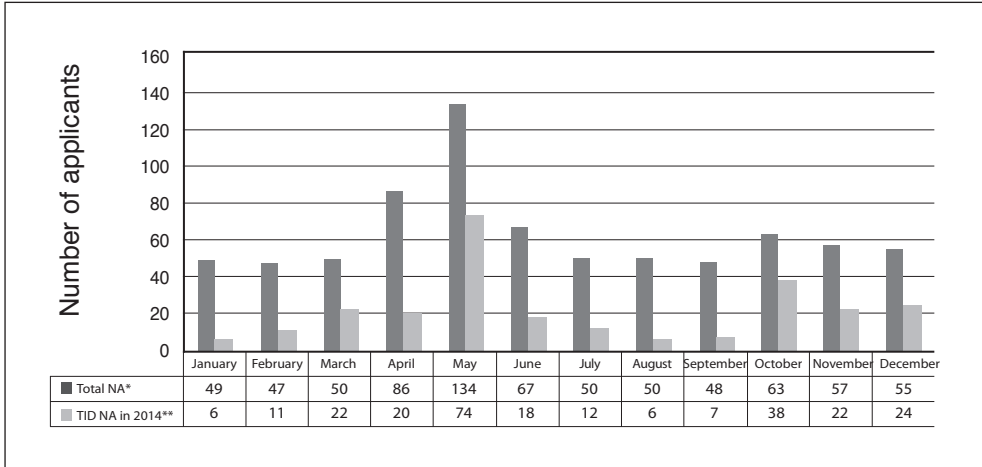
*TID: Torture and ill-treatment in detention.

The distribution of the applicants according to the months in 2014 is given in Chart 1. 201 of all applicants applied to HRFT in the months of May (134 applicants, 18%) and June (67 applicants, 9%). In 2013, this number was 372 (44%) and due to the 1 May and Gezi Park protests, May and June were the months in which most applicants applied. In 2013, the number of applications was also high in the month of July (in May 2013: 131 applicants, 16%; in June 2013: 241 applicants, 29%; and in July 2013: 112 applicants, 13%). In 2014, October was the third most crowded month in terms of applications (63 applicants, 8%).

October 2014 was a historical period for Turkey due to the widespread protests in many provinces for Kobanê which was under attack by Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL/ISIS).

As HRFT, we indicated our concern about the violent context of violations to the right to live, the freedom of assembly and the prohibition of torture which caused severe human rights violations during 6-8 October events and which seriously harmed the peaceful and conflict-free context which would create an important opportunity to solve existent problems of democracy and to improve the public and political spaces. During the demonstrations to support Kobanê, and home invasions after the demonstrations, accessible data shows that at least 1110 people (including 199 children) were detained, 264 people (including 20 children) were arrested and imprisoned, and 51 people lost their lives.

Chart 1: The monthly distribution of applications to HRFT in 2014.



*NA: Number of Applicants, **TID: Torture and ill-treatment in detention.

Those who are not previously aware of the work of the foundation (first hand) can be admitted into the treatment and rehabilitation centres with the guidance of individuals and organizations. Regarding the people and institutions that referred applicants to the HRFT, it is observed that most applicants were recommended by former HRFT applicants followed by those referred by NGOs or parties. Moreover:

- With the recommendations from HRFT applicants, most applicants applied to the Diyarbakır centre (159, 21%),
- As first hand, most applicants applied to the Diyarbakır centre (68, 9%),
- With the recommendations from non-governmental organizations, most applicants applied to the İstanbul centre (108, 23%),
- With the recommendations from Human Rights Association, most applicants applied to the İstanbul centre (46, 6%),
- Through lawyers, most applicants applied to the İstanbul centre (30, 4%),
- Through the volunteers of HRFT, most applicants applied to the İzmir centre (10, 1%),
- With the recommendations from HRFT employees, most applicants applied to the İzmir and İstanbul centres (each 4, 1%). 2 applicants stated that they applied to the HRFT through media.

Among the sources of recommendations, the Human Rights Foundation -which was in the first rank every year- was fourth and most applicants applied through other HRFT applicants in 2014. Among the applications to Diyarbakır centre (to which 42% of the applicants applied), 21% of the applicants applied through other HRFT applicants. This mainly caused by the communication between people who were

tried within the same lawsuit, continuous environment which is free from conflict and the periodical visits of HRFT to other institutions.

Table 3 shows the distribution of the information channels on the HRFT for all applicants and those applicants who stated that they had been subjected torture or ill-treatment in 2014.

Table 3: The distribution of the information channels for all applicants and for those applicants who were subjected to torture and ill-treatment in detention (TID) in 2014

Information Channel	All Applicants	%	TID in 2014	%
Recommendations of other HRFT applications	233	29,8	35	13,5
Directly	181	23,1	76	29,3
NGOs or parties	178	22,7	63	24,3
Human Rights Association	98	12,5	41	15,8
Lawyers	46	5,9	29	11,2
Recommendations of volunteers in the HRFT	28	3,6	10	3,9
Recommendations of the HRFT staff	17	2,2	4	1,5
Press	2	0,3	1	0,4
Total	783	100,0	259	100,0

The work of the HRFT Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 will be evaluated, as in previous years, in two main sections. In the first section all applicants will be evaluated, while in the second section the 259 applicants who stated they had been tortured or ill-treated in 2014 will be analyzed separately. As a result, the evaluation of the year 2014 will be made in the second section of the report.

I- EVALUATION RESULTS OF ALL APPLICANTS

A- SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

1- Age and Sex

The ages of the victims of torture who applied to the centres in 2014 ranged from 12 to 71. In 2013, the range was between 2 and 76.

The average age of the applicants is 34,5, representing 0,7 years increase from 2013. Though there was not a significant increase in the average age, the decrease in the number of applicants below the age of 18 as it happened in the last years,

continued in 2014 with the rate of 2,6% when compared to 2013. The number and the proportion of the applicants below 18 was:

- 50 and 14,6% in 2010,
- 73 and 15,1% in 2011,
- 50 and 9,9% in 2012,
- 43 and 5% in 2013.

9 of 18 applicants (1,2% of all applicants, 50% of underage applicants) below the age of 18, applied to the İstanbul Centre.

This table shows the age of the applicants in the year of their application, and is not a representation of their age at the time of torture. 14 applicants (77,8%) under the age of 18 stated that they had been subjected to torture and ill-treatment in the year 2014.

As we see every year, the greatest cluster of applicants comes from the 19-25 age group in 2014. In the past years this age group has constituted nearly one half of all applicants, however in 2011, 2012 and 2013 it was closer to one quarter. In 2014, 166 applicants (22%) were between the ages of 19 to 25.

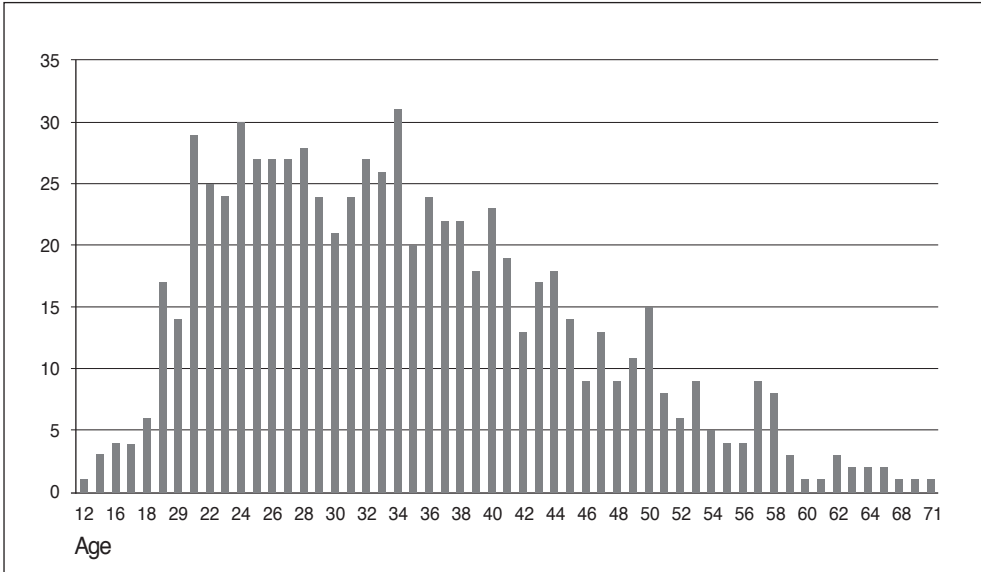
22% of all applicants was under the age of 25. This number was 42,9% in 2010, 37,6% in 2011, 37,8% in 2012 and 29% in 2013. In the distribution of the applicants according to their ages, most of the applicants (31 applicants) were 31 years old followed by those 30 applicants who were 24 years old and 29 applicants who were 21 years old. The number of applicants who were between 21-31 was 286 and constituted the %38 of the applicants.

The distribution of the applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to their groups of age is presented in Table 4, and the distribution of the applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to their ages is given in Chart 2.

Table 4: The distribution of the applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to their groups of age

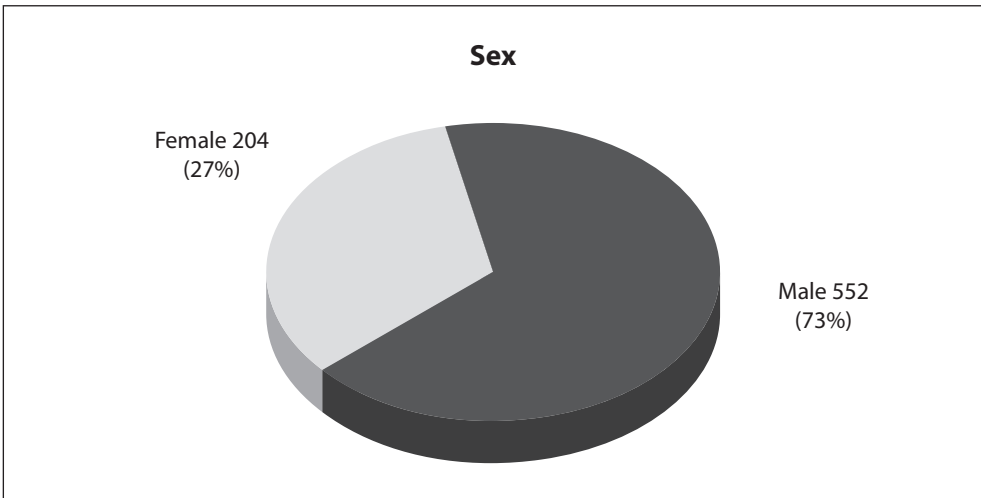
Age Group	Number of Applicants	%
0-18	18	2
19-25	166	22
26-30	127	17
31-35	128	17
36-40	109	14
41-45	81	11
46 and over	127	17
Total	756	100

Chart 2: The distribution of the applicants to the HRFT’s Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to their ages



552 of the applicants are males (73%) and 204 of the applicants are female (27%). Although the female to male applicants ratio changes a little each year, it generally remains at around 1:3 as it did in 2014.

Chart 3: The distribution of the applicants to the HRFT’s Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to their sex



2- Place of Birth

As in nearly all years except 2013, those who were born in the Southeast Anatolian and Eastern Anatolia regions were in the first and second ranks in 2014. In 2013, the number of applicants to the İstanbul Centre increased due to the Gezi Park protests and naturally caused the number of those applicants who were born in the Marmara Region to be in the second place. In 2014, the number of those who were born in the Marmara Region was in the third rank.

But again, nearly half of the applicants (43%) were born in Southeast and Eastern Anatolia in 2013; while in 2014, this number was 61% (459 applicants) which represents an increase at the rate of 18% compared to 2013. The major reason for this situation is the high number of applications to the Diyarbakır Centre. Although the applicants were not asked about their ethnicity, this report presents these numbers in order to show that those who are related to the Kurdish issue are more often subjected to torture and ill-treatment. This number was:

- 56,9% (195 applicants) in 2010,
- 47,7% (231 applicants) in 2011,
- 53,8% (272 applicants) in 2012 and,
- 43,0% (363 applicants) in 2013.

Those applicants who were born in the Central Anatolian region was fourth (8%). Among all applicants, those who were born in Mediterranean region was fifth (6%). Those who were born in Black Sea region constituted the 5% and those who were born in the Aegean region constituted the 4% of all applicants. The percentage of applicants born outside of Turkey was 5%. The majority of these applicants were in the status of refugee and this number was:

- 8% in 2011,
- 11% in 2012,
- 7% in 2013.

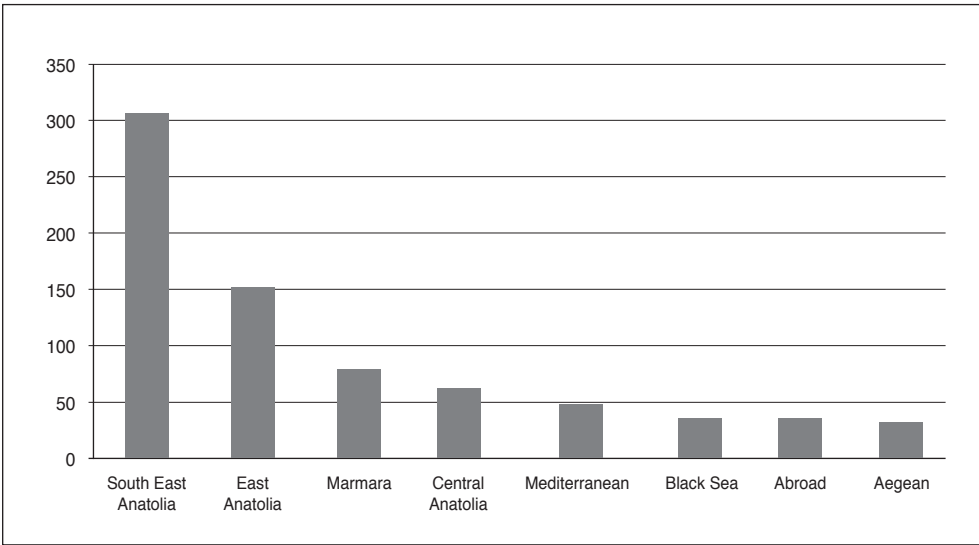
The distribution of all applicants according to their place of birth is given in Chart 4.

When we look at the distribution of applicants according to the provinces they were born, it can be seen that the most applicants were born in Diyarbakır (137 applicants, 18%). Most applicants (98, 12%) were born in İstanbul for the reasons presented above in 2013. In 2014, those who were born in İstanbul was in the second rank with 69 applicants (9%), followed by those who were born in Şırnak (60 applicants, 8%). The distribution of applicants according to the province they were born is: Mardin (48 applicants 6%), Tunceli (35 applicants 5%), Sivas (28 applicants 4%), Batman (24 applicants 3%), Siirt (21 applicants 3%), İzmir (20 applicants, 3%), Ankara (18 applicants 2%), Malatya ve Muş (each have 16 applicants and the percentage of 2%), Van (14 applicants 2%), Adana (13 applicants 2%), Elazığ ve Hatay (each have

12 applicants and the percentage of 2%), Tokat ve Bingöl (each have 10 applicants and the percentage of 1%).

28 of 36 applicants who were born abroad were either in the status of refugee or asylum-seeker and 27 of these applicants stated that they have been subjected to torture in their country of origin. As similar to the last years, majority of these applicants were from Iran (16 applicants, 57%).

Chart 4: The distribution of the applicants to the HRFT’s Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to their place of birth



3- Level of Education and Employment Status

When looked at the level of education of the applicants, it can be seen that the majority of the applicants are high school graduates in the age group of 19-25 (272 applicants, 36%).

Second most applicants were university or college graduates (149 applicants, 20%). The distribution of these applicants according to their age groups shows that 32 (21%) of them were between the ages of 31 and 35 while 30 (20%) of them were between 26 and 30.

Third most applicants were middle school graduates (146 applicants, 19%). 100 applicants (13%) were graduates of primary school, 63 applicants (8%) were dropped out of university or college, 18 applicants (2%) were only literate and 8 applicants (1%) were illiterate. A more detailed distribution of the education levels of the applicants is provided in Table 5.

Those applicants enrolled at an university or a college have been counted as high school graduates and those applicants who were still attending primary/middle education have been counted as primary/middle school students. In all, 129 of the applicants were students (17%).

Table 5. The distribution of the applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to their education level

Education Level	Number of Applicants	%
High School graduate	272	36
University/College graduate	149	20
Middle school graduate	146	19
Primary school graduate	100	13
Dropped out of university or college	63	8
Only literate	18	2
Illiterate	8	1
Total	756	100

In regards to the employment status, 409 applicants (54,1%) were unemployed at the time of the interview (the possible changes in the status of employment of applicants occurred between the time of their application and preparation of this report, are ignored).

In 2013, 296 (35,1%) of the applicants were unemployed. The increase in the percentage of unemployed applicants in 2014 compared to 2013, which is equal to 19% is remarkable.

When evaluated with the previous years, the high unemployment rate did seem as the result of diversity of the applicants in 2013, due to the Gezi Park protests. However, it was a reflection of rising unemployment rate in Turkey to the applications to HRFT. This percentage was:

- 45,3% with 229 applicants in 2012,
- 41,5% with 201 applicants in 2011,
- 47,8% with 164 applicants in 2010,
- 36,2% with 147 applicants in 2009.

The education levels of those applicants who were unemployed at the time of their application in 2014 was:

- 29,6% (121 applicants) was high school graduates,
- 21,3% (87 applicants) was middle school graduates,
- 18,3% (75 applicants) was primary school graduates,

- 14,9% (61 applicants) was university or college graduates,
- 11,5% (47 applicants) was dropped out of an university or a college,
- 2,9% (12 applicants) was only literate,
- 1,5% (6 applicants) was illiterate.

Age groups of unemployed applicants in 2014 were:

- 78 applicants (19,1%) were between the ages of 31-35
- 75 applicants (18,3%) were between the ages of 36-40
- 71 applicants (17,4%) were between the ages of 19-25

There were 66 applicants (16,1%) in both 26-30 and 46 and over age groups while there 48 applicants (11,7%) were between 41-45 and 5 applicants (1,2%) were between 0 and 18.

When looked at the birthplaces (regions) of those unemployed applicants (which constitutes 54,1% of all applicants) in 2014: most of the applicants (211 applicants, 51,6%) were born in South-Eastern Anatolia region, followed by those who were born in Southern Anatolia region (78 applicants, 19,1%), those who were born abroad (24 applicants, 5,9%). 23 applicants (5,6%) were born in Mediterranean region, 22 applicants (5,4%) were born in Central Anatolia region, 21 applicants (5,1%) were born in Marmara region, 16 applicants (3,9%) were born in Aegean region and 14 applicants (3,4%) were born in Black Sea region.

Among those applicants who were aged between 0-18, 9 applicants were middle or high school student while 2 applicants were university/college students. 7 of these applicants who were aged between 0 and 18, 7 applicants (39%) stated that they discontinued their education. This percentage was 25,6% in 2013, 52% in 2012 and 60,3% in 2011. The percentage in 2014 was higher than 2013 and lower than 2011 and 2012. More than one third of these applicants in 2014 discontinued their education and this can be explained with the information about birthplaces (provinces) of the applicants. There were 1 children from each Şırnak, Van, Kars and Adana and 3 from İstanbul in which there are many domestic immigrants. The main reason for the discontinuance of education could be social and economical handicaps that Kurdish families and children face after forced migration, and also oppression and constraints originating from governmental laws, especially the Law To Fight Terrorism.

The occupational status of employed applicants (45,9% among all) is also given in the table below.

The number of those applicants who were occupied in the media sector was high in 2014, but not as in 2013 (37 in 2013, 7 in 2012 and 4 in 2011 and 2010. Because, media sector workers are often targeted by law enforcers during demonstrations and protests.

In 2014, 68,9% of the applicants were either unemployed or university/college students. Other occupational statuses varied among other 31,1% of the applicants. There were decrease in the number of those applicants in other occupational statuses, except unemployed applicants. The employment status of the applicants is presented in more detail in Table 6.

Table 6: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to their employment/profession

Profession or Employment	Number of Applicants		%	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Unemployed	409	296	54,1	35,1
University/college student	112	131	14,8	15,5
Tradesman, tourism operator etc. (self-employed)	44	58	5,8	6,9
Office worker in private sector (secretary, bank clerk etc.)	26	70	3,4	8,3
Journalist or employed in media sector	25	37	3,3	4,4
Retired	22	31	2,9	3,7
Lawyer	17	9	2,2	1,1
Primary/middle school student	17	40	2,2	4,7
Teacher	14	11	1,9	1,3
Industrial worker in private sector	11	32	1,5	3,8
Construction worker	11	14	1,5	1,7
Office worker in public sector (secretary, bank clerk etc.)	11	11	1,5	1,3
Artist	10	25	1,3	3,0
Employed in an NGO	9	31	1,2	3,7
Housewife	5	11	0,7	1,3
Engineer	4	10	0,5	1,2
Industrial worker in public sector	3	5	0,4	0,6
Worker in agricultural sector	2	4	0,3	0,5
Nurse	2	2	0,3	0,2
Street vendor	2	2	0,3	0,2
Instructor	-	8	-	0,9
Farmer, fisher etc.	-	2	-	0,2
Architect	-	1	-	0,1
Doctor	-	1	-	0,1
Children aged 0 to 5	-	2	-	0,2
Total	756	844	100,0	100,0

B- PROCESS OF TORTURE

Assessing the dates when the 756 applicants who applied to the HRFT (and stated that they have been tortured and/or ill-treated) in 2014 were last tortured and/or ill-treated, one can see that 314 applicants (41,5%) were subjected to torture and ill-treatment in the year of 2014. The percentage of those applicants who stated that they have been subjected to torture and/or ill-treatment between the years of 2009 and 2013, is 48% (363 applicants).

The distribution of the dates of the most recent torture according to the year is given in Table 7.

Table 7: The distribution of the applicants in 2014 according to the period when they were last tortured and/or ill-treated

Year of the Most Recent Torture	Number of Applicants
2000 and before	24
2001	5
2002	1
2003	3
2004	3
2005	4
2006	12
2007	9
2008	18
2009	83
2010	41
2011	93
2012	61
2013	85
2014	314
Total	756

1- Process of Detention and Torture in Detention

730 of the applicants (96,6%) in 2014, stated that they have been subjected to torture for political reasons. This proportion was:

- 95,4% in 2013,
- 86,6% in 2012,
- 88,4% in 2011,
- 83,4% in 2010.

21 applicants (2,8%) stated that they have been tortured for judicial or non-political reasons. This proportion was:

- 3,9% in 2013,
- 11,5% in 2012,
- 11,0% in 2011,
- 14,3% in 2010.

Lastly, 5 applicants (0,7%) stated that they have been tortured for seeking asylum. This number was 0,2% with 2 applicants in 2013.²

The percentage of those detained for non-political reasons among all applicants has continued to decrease as it did in the last two years compared to the past years (8,6% in 2004, 5,2% in 2005, 11,7% in 2006, 13,8% in 2007 and approximately 18% in both 2008 and 2009). This decrease can be explained by the increase in the social mobility in 2013 and 2014.

When evaluating the process of torture that the applicants were subjected to, the unrecorded (unofficial) detentions will be categorized among the detentions lasted less than 1 day/24 hours. There is a remarkable decrease in the number of applicants who were detained for less than 24 hours in 2014 when compared to 2013. The percentage was 62,8% in 2013, and it was 39,4% in 2014. This situation can be explained by (a) the decrease in the number of applicants who were subjected to police violence during a demonstration, (b) the increased number of those applicants who were arrested for a while after their most recent detention (445 applicants, 58,9%), then released and applied to HRFT centres (especially to the Diyarbakır centre: 277 applicants, 36,6%). The durations of detention of those applicants who were arrested after their most recent detention is such: 4 days (194 applicants, 25,7%), 3 days (91 applicants, 12%), 1 day (63 applicants, 8,3%).

When looked at the distribution of the detention periods of applicants in detail:

- 298 applicants (39,4%) were detained for less than 24 hours (62,8% with 530 applicants in 2013),
- 82 applicants (10,8%) were detained for 2 days (7,1% with 60 applicants in 2013),
- 116 applicants (15,3%) were detained for 3 days (5,5% with 46 applicants in 2013) and,
- 202 applicants (26,7%) were detained for 4 days (15,5% with 131 applicants in 2013).

² This number indicates the number of applicants who have been subjected to torture or ill-treatment for political or non-political reasons while seeking asylum in their origin country. Applicants who have been subjected to torture or ill-treatment as an asylum-seeker or refugee in Turkey are in other category.

The duration of the most recent detention of the applicants is given in Table 8.

Table 8: The distribution of the applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to the duration of their most recent detention

Duration of the Most Recent Detention	Number of Applicants in 2014	Number of Applicants in 2013	2014 %	2013 %
Less than 24 hours	298	530	39,4	62,8
24-48 hours	82	60	10,8	7,1
49-72 hours	116	46	15,3	5,5
73-96 hours	202	131	26,7	15,5
5-7 days	31	18	4,1	2,1
8-15 days	6	17	0,8	2,0
16-30 days	10	22	1,3	2,6
More than a month	11	20	1,5	2,4
Total	756	844	100,0	100,0

Regarding the places where the applicants were detained, it appears that 363 applicants (65,3%) were detained while they were in outdoors (as similar to 2013: 569 applicants, 67,4%). However, the number of those applicants who were detained at home has increased for more than the rate of 50% in 2014 (272 applicants, 48,9%) when compared to 2013 (175 applicants, 20,7%). Among these applicants, 171 of 272 applied to the Diyarbakır centre, and 156 of them were arrested after their most recent detention, and 140 of them were detained between the hours of 00:00-08:00. The distribution of the applicants according to the place of their most recent detention is presented in Table 9.

Table 9: The distribution of the applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to the place of their most recent detention

The Place of the Most Recent Detention	Number of Applicants in 2014	Number of Applicants in 2013	2014 %	2013 %
Outdoors	363	569	65,3	67,4
Home	272	175	48,9	20,7
Public office	47	34	8,5	4,0
Other	35	19	6,3	2,3
Workplace	20	31	3,6	3,7
Organization (NGO office, press office etc.)	18	13	3,2	1,5
Not known	1	3	0,2	0,4
Total	756	844	100,0	100,0

The distribution of the applicants according to the time when the applicants were detained, is given in Table 10. As in 2013, majority of the applicants (44,4%) were detained during the day. However, this percentage decreased for 17% when compared to the last year. As it was mentioned before, 34,1% of the applicants were detained after midnight. This distribution of those taken into custody and exposed to torture and ill-treatment in the year 2014, will be examined in detail in the second section.

Table 10: The distribution of the applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to the hour of their most recent detention

Time of Last Detention	Number of Applicants in 2014	Number of Applicants in 2013	2014 %	2013 %
08:00 – 18:00	336	518	44,4	61,4
18:00 – 24:00	157	151	20,8	17,9
24:00 – 08:00	258	154	34,1	18,2
Not known	5	21	0,7	2,5
Total	756	844	100,0	100,0

The percentage of the applicants who had been tortured in outdoors reached its peak in 2013 with 48,6%. In 2014, it was slightly over the average of the last three years except 2013 (20,7% in 2010, 14,7% in 2011, 22,3% in 2012, and the average is 19,1%).

Regarding the distribution of the places of the most recent torture, as in previous years, majority of the applicants (418, 55,3%) were tortured in security directorates which represents the peak in last three years except 2013 (it was 242 applicants, 28,7% in 2013). The percentage was 45,8% in 2010, 46,7% in 2011, 40,9% in 2012, and the average of these three years is 44,4%. Torture in unrecorded/unofficial detentions are still increasing as it was in the last years. The situation as its simplest can be seen when looked at the number of those applicants who had been tortured in detention in the year 2014. The details regarding this issue will be evaluated in the second section.

Table 11: The distribution of the applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre in 2014 according to the place of the most recent torture in detention

Place of Most Recent Torture in Detention	Number of Applicants in 2014	Number of Applicants in 2013	2014 %	2013 %
Security directorates	418	242	55,3	28,7
Outdoors	176	410	23,3	48,6
Police station	51	43	6,7	5,1
Gendarmerie station	15	8	2,0	0,9
Car	9	29	1,2	3,4
Gendarmerie headquarters	8	19	1,1	2,3
Home/workplace	7	13	0,9	1,5
Other	32	29	4,2	3,4
Unknown/not remembered	9	14	1,2	1,7
Empty*	31	37	4,1	4,4
Total	756	844	100,0	100,0

**People who were not subjected to torture during their last detention but applied on the basis of torture experienced in former detention periods or prison.*

Turning to the regional distribution of the place of most recent torture (Table 12), it can be seen that the majority (272, 36%) of the applicants (as in 2012 and 2013) were subjected in torture in the Marmara region. 267 (35,3%) of these applicants stated that they had been tortured in İstanbul and 235 (31,1%) of these applicants applied to the İstanbul Centre. Second most applicants (33,5%) were tortured in South-Eastern Anatolia. 153 (20,2%) of these applicants were tortured in Diyarbakır and 150 of these applicants (19,8%) of these applicants applied to the Diyarbakır Centre.

Similarly, 70 (9,3% in all) of those 78 (10,3% in all) applicants who stated that they had been tortured in İzmir, applied to the İzmir Centre.

The high numbers of applicants in the provinces where the HRFT centres are, who were subjected to torture in the same province, was an occurrence in all the previous years. Considering that there are total of five HRFT Centres across the country, it can be said that only a small number of torture survivors are being and can be reached.

Table 12: The distribution of the applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to the region of their most recent torture in detention

Region of the Most Recent Torture	Number of Applicants in 2014	Number of Applicants in 2013	2014 %	2013 %
Marmara	272	376	36,0	44,5
South-Eastern Anatolia	253	129	33,5	15,3
Aegean	87	69	11,5	8,2
Mediterranean	38	91	5,0	10,8
Central Anatolia	27	84	3,6	10,0
Eastern Anatolia	15	18	2,0	2,1
Black Sea	3	2	0,4	2,1
Abroad	30	38	4,0	4,5
Empty*	31	37	4,1	4,4
Total	756	844	100,0	100,0

*People who were not subjected to torture during their last detention but applied on the basis of torture experienced in former detention periods or prison.

Regarding the provinces in which the applicants were last subjected to torture, majority of the applicants (267 applicants, 35,3%) were tortured in İstanbul as it was in previous years of 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013. As one of the provinces where the Gezi Park protests was intense, Ankara was in the second rank last year. This year it is in the fifth rank with 26 applicants (3,4%). Second most applicants in 2014 were tortured in Diyarbakır (153, 20,2%) and third most were tortured in İzmir (78, 10,3%).

Table 13: The distribution of the applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to the province of their most recent torture in detention (provinces in which at least three applicants were tortured)

The Province of the Most Recent Torture	Number of Applicants	%
İstanbul	267	35,3
Diyarbakır	153	20,2
İzmir	78	10,3
Şırnak	50	6,6
Ankara	26	3,4
Adana	19	2,5
Mardin	15	2,0
Batman	12	1,6
Şanlıurfa	12	1,6

Table 13 cont.

Mersin	10	1,3
Siirt	8	1,1
Antalya	7	0,9
Manisa	5	0,7
Van	4	0,5
Hakkari	4	0,5
Edirne	3	0,4
Tunceli	3	0,4
Denizli	3	0,4
Other provinces	16	2,8
Abroad	30	4,0
Empty*	31	4,1
Total	756	100,0

**People who were not subjected to torture during their last detention but applied on the basis of torture experienced in former detention periods or prison.*

Looking in more detail at the detention centres where the most recent torture was inflicted (Table 14), it can be seen that the Anti-Terror Branch (ATB) of İstanbul Security Directorate is the detention centre in which most applicants were tortured which represents the first rank in 2014 and the highest percentage compared to the previous years.

- 18 applicants (5,2%) in 2010 (first rank),
- 30 applicants (6,2%) in 2011 (first rank),
- 19 applicants (3,8%) in 2012 (fourth rank),

and 27 applicants (3,2%) in 2013 (second rank) were subjected to torture in the ATB of İstanbul Security Directorate.

Diyarbakır Security Directorate is in the second rank (55 applicants, 7,3%) which shows a significant increase compared to the last four years. Diyarbakır ATB (which was in the first rank in 2012 with 26 applicants, 5,1%) is again among those centres where the high numbers of applicants were tortured with 45 applicants (6%) in 2014.

On the other hand, we have the intention to evaluate the "Internal Security Package" which extremely concerned the citizens. However due to the preparation period of this report, it was not possible and we consider it appropriate to evaluate the aforesaid law amendment in 2015.

Table 14: The distribution of the applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to the specific places of the most recent torture in detention (centres in which at least three applicants were tortured)

Centres Where the Most Recent Torture Took Place	Number of Applicants	%
İstanbul ATB	100	13,2
Diyarbakır Security Directorate	55	7,3
Diyarbakır ATB	45	6,0
Şırnak ATB	32	4,2
İzmir Bozyaka ATB	23	3,0
Diyarbakır Police School	19	2,5
İstanbul Vatan Security Directorate	16	2,1
Mardin ATB	14	1,9
Batman Security Directorate	9	1,2
Cizre Security Directorate	8	1,1
Şanlıurfa ATB	8	1,1
Siirt ATB	7	0,9
Diyarbakır Action Force	6	0,8
Ankara Security Directorate	6	0,8
İstanbul Beyoğlu Police Station	6	0,8
Antalya ATB	6	0,8
Mersin Security Directorate	5	0,7
Esenyurt Gendarmerie Station	5	0,7
Diyarbakır Gendarmerie Intelligence and Anti-Terror Unit (JITEM)	5	0,7
Adana Security Directorate	5	0,7
Ankara ATB	4	0,5
İstanbul Political Branch	4	0,5
Mersin ATB	4	0,5
Edirne ATB	3	0,4
Tunceli ATB	3	0,4
Beyazıt Police Station	3	0,4
Other Security Directorate and ATB	46	6,1
Other Police Station	26	3,4
Other Gendarmerie Station/Headquarters	14	1,9

Table 14 cont.

Abroad	12	1,6
Those who weren't subjected to torture in a centre*	31	4,1
Empty**	207	27,4
Unknown/not remembered	19	2,5
Total	756	100,0

*Tortured at outdoors, at home or workplace, in a car or some other place

**People who were not subjected to torture during their last detention but applied on the basis of torture experienced in former detention periods or prison.

The distribution of the torture methods inflicted on the applicants during their most recent detention is presented in Table 15 (this evaluation concerns the 725 applicants out of a total of 756 applicants, who indicated that they had been tortured during their most recent detention). Since it will be more appropriate to consider this matter in the light of recent developments, a more detailed analysis will follow in the second section.

Table 15: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to the methods of torture inflicted during their most recent detention

Method of Torture	Number of Applicants	%
Insulting	541	74,6
Humiliating	508	70,1
Beating	371	51,2
Other threats against the applicant	270	37,2
Death threat	154	21,2
Restricting food and drink	146	20,1
Exposure to chemical substances	133	18,3
Restricting urination and defecation	121	16,7
Sleep deprivation	115	15,9
Threats against relatives/friends	115	15,9
Continuous hitting on one part of the body	97	13,4
Forced to obey nonsensical orders	92	12,7
Forced to witness (visual/audio) torture of others	77	10,6
Verbal sexual harassment	73	10,1
Other positional torture methods	73	10,1
Asked to act as an informer	70	9,7

Table 15 cont.

Exposure to pressured/cold water	62	8,6
Stripping naked	56	7,7
Sexual harassment	52	7,2
Restricted respiration	46	6,3
Physical sexual harassment	44	6,1
Blindfolded	43	5,9
Solitary cell	40	5,5
Forced to wait in cold environment	34	4,7
Forced medical intervention	27	3,7
Torture in the presence of relatives/friends	20	2,8
Pulling out hair/moustache/beard	20	2,8
Electricity	19	2,6
Forced to listen to marches or high-volume music	19	2,6
Falanga	18	2,5
Suspension	18	2,5
Mocked execution	17	2,3
Suspension or crucifying	12	1,7
Squeezing the testicles	11	1,5
Strappado	9	1,2
Burning	7	1,0
Forced excessive physical activity	7	1,0
Rectal search	6	0,8
Rape	6	0,8
Hitting with gas canister	3	0,4
Reverse hanging from the legs	3	0,4
Injuring with gas canister	3	0,4
Injuring with plastic bullet	1	0,1
Other	138	19,0
Total	3728	5,1*

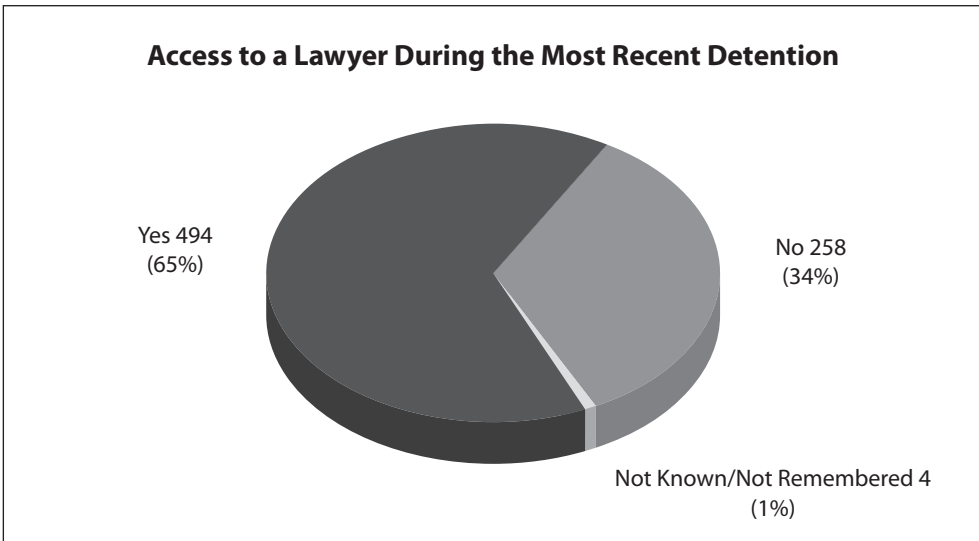
* Average number of torture methods one person is subjected to

2- Legal Procedures During and After Detention

494 of all applicants (65,3%) in 2014, stated that they were able to consult with a lawyer during their most recent detention. This percentage was 34,1% (288 applicants) in 2013, 51,6% (261 applicants) in 2012, 54,8% (265 applicants) in 2011 and 48,4% (166 applicants) in 2010. The decrease in the year 2013 can be explained by the unrecorded/unofficial detentions during the May 1 and Gezi Park

protest around the country. When the percentage in 2013 was precluded due to the year’s specific circumstances, the percentage of those applicants who were able to consult with a lawyer in 2014 shows a 13,6% increase when compared to the average percentage of the last three years. A more detailed information for the year 2014 will be presented in the second section which analyses only those applicants who were subjected to torture and ill-treatment in 2014.

Chart 5: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT’s Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to their access to a lawyer



The number of applicants who were released from their most recent detention without being brought to a prosecutor was 220 (29,1%). This number was:

- 475 (56,3%) in 2013,
- 177 (35%) in 2012,
- 128 (26,4%) in 2011,
- and 111 (32,4%) in 2010. Again, the practices of unrecorded/unofficial detentions in 2013 can be clearly seen by this information. The percentage in 2014 is close to the last three years’ average except 2013 (Table 16).

89 applicants (11,8%) were released by a prosecutor or court in 2014. This number was 98 (11,6%) in 2013, 135 (26,7%) in 2012, 134 (27,7%) in 2011 and 75 (21,9%) in 2010. There is an apparent decrease in 2013 and 2014 which causes a consideration regarding that detention is being used as a punishment method.

445 applicants (58,9%) faced arrest warrant issued by a prosecutor or court after their most recent detention, in 2014. This number was:

- 270 (32%) in 2013,
- 194 (38,3%) in 2012,
- 220 (45,5%) in 2011,
- and 153 (44,6%) in 2010.

The number in 2014 is the highest in last four years. 277 (36,6% in all) of those applicants who faced an arrest warrant after their most recent detention, applied to the Diyarbakir Centre which represents the majority of those applicants. 106 (14% of all) applicants applied to the İstanbul Centre. When looked at the detention year of those 277 applicants who applied to the Diyarbakir Centre:

- 77 applicants (27,8%) were detained in 2009;
- 30 applicants (10,8%) were detained in 2010;
- 91 applicants (32,9%) were detained in 2011;
- and 28 applicants (10,1%) were detained in 2012. This figure reflects a small fraction of the consequences of the aforementioned KCK operations.³

Table 16: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to their legal situation after their most recent detention

Legal Situation After Most Recent Detention	Number of Applicants in 2014	2014 %	Number of Applicants in 2013	2013 %
Released without facing prosecutor	220	29.1	475	56,3
Released by prosecution office or court	89	11,8	98	11,6
Was arrested	445	58,9	270	32,0
Unknown/not remembered	2	0,3	1	0,1
Total	756	100,0	844	100,0

Regarding the legal processes following the most recent detention period of the applicants, almost half and the majority of the applicants (421, 49,9%) in 2013 were not tried. The number of applicants who were not tried after their most recent detention decreased for approximately 50% with 183 applicants (24,2%) in 2014. The majority of the applicants (323, 42,7%) in 2014 had a trial in progress.

³ http://www.radikal.com.tr/turkiye/kckda_2000_tutuklu-1092791

Table 17: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to the legal procedures after their most recent detention

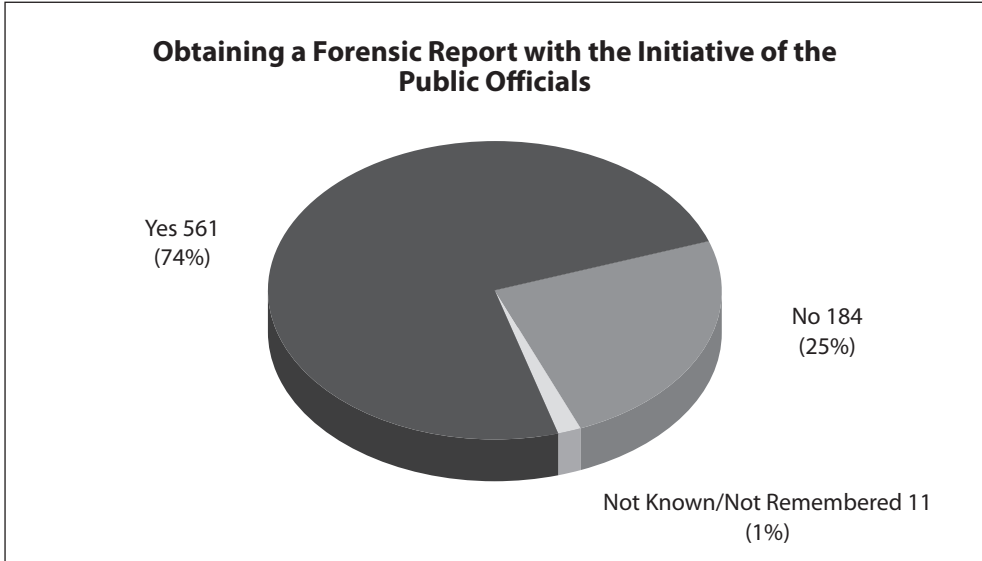
Legal Procedure	Number of Applicants in 2014	2014 %	Number of Applicants in 2013	2013 %
Trial in progress	323	42,7	163	19,3
Applicant was not tried	183	24,2	421	49,9
Applicant was tried and convicted	124	16,4	154	18,2
Whether a suit has been filed or not is unknown	90	11,9	88	10,4
Applicant was tried and acquitted	20	2,6	12	1,4
Applicant was tried, result is unknown	16	2,1	6	0,7
Total	756	100,0	844	100,0

The number of applicants who went through a medical examination while in detention and after detention on the initiatives of public officials as a necessity by law and obtained a forensic report was 561 (74,2%) in 2014. This number was:

- 367 (43,5%) in 2013,
- 313 (61,9%) in 2012,
- 353 (73%) in 2011,
- and 233 (67,9%) in 2010.

The percentage of those applicants who obtained an forensic medical report during their official/recorded detention is usually around 70%. However, it drastically dropped to 25% in 2013 because of unrecorded/unofficial detentions during demonstrations and protests. As previously mentioned, this indicates that official or unofficial detention practices are still being used as punishment methods. A more updated evaluation of this data will be presented in Section 2.

Chart 6: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT’s Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to whether they went through a medical examination and obtained a forensic report on the initiatives of public officials after the detention or not



Among those 561 applicants who obtained a forensic report, 423 (75,4%) were taken to a hospital for medical examination by public officials. This number was:

- 65,1% in 2013,
- 73,5% in 2012,
- 62% in 2011,
- and 54,1% in 2010.

Excluding the year 2013, this percentage shows a increasing trend. It will be evaluated in the second section in detail with recent developments. Table 18 presents the places of forensic medical examinations after the most recent detention.

Table 18: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to the place of the forensic medical examination after the most recent detention

Place of Forensic Medical Examination After the Most Recent Detention	Number of Applicants in 2014	2014 %	Number of Applicants in 2013	2013 %
Hospital	423	75,4	239	65,1
Health Centre	51	9,1	32	8,7
Branch Office of Institution of Forensic Medicine	42	7,5	78	21,3
Institution of Forensic Medicine	31	5,5	6	1,6
Detention centre	5	0,9	3	0,8
Unknown/not remembered	9	1,6	9	2,5
Total	561	100,0	367	100,0

When the 561 applicants who had forensic medical examinations were asked to evaluate the process of their examination: 46,2% stated that the law-enforcement officers were not taken out of the examination room during the examination, 54% stated that the physician did not listen to their complaints, 65,2% did not take note of the complaints and 63,5% stated that the physician did not examine them as required. 38,7% of these applicants stated that the physician prepared a report which is not in accordance with their medical situation and 36,7% stated that they had no information about the report or did not remember.

Table 19: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to the evaluations regarding the forensic examination after detention

Evaluations Regarding Forensic Examination	Yes	%	No	%	Unknown/not Remembered	%	Total	%
Did the law-enforcement officers taken out of the room during the forensic medical examination?	282	50,3	259	46,2	20	3,6	561	100,0
Did the forensic physician listen to their complaints?	249	44,4	203	54,0	9	1,6	561	100,0
Did the forensic physician take note of the complaints?	188	33,5	366	65,2	7	1,2	561	100,0
Did the forensic physician examine as s/he ought to?	194	34,6	356	63,5	11	2,0	561	100,0
Did the forensic physician prepare a report that was in accordance with the findings?	138	24,6	217	38,7	206	36,7	561	100,0

199 applicants (26,3%) filed a separate complaint regarding the torture they have been subjected to during their interrogation by the court or prosecutor in 2014. 535 applicants (70,8%) stated that they did not file any complaints regarding the torture they had been subjected to.

3- Imprisonment Period

The number of applicants who had been imprisoned at some point was 472 (62,4%). This number was 291 (34,5%) in 2013. 453 (59,9%) of these applicants were arrested and imprisoned after their most recent detention (it was 278, 32,9% in 2013). The cases of imprisonment after the most recent detention increased by 27% compared to the last year. The length of imprisonment period varied between 1 month and 240 months. The total duration of imprisonment period of the 472 applicants is given in Table 20. 284 applicants (37,6%) did not have any imprisonment history.

When compared to 2013, there is a decrease in the number of applicants who had been imprisoned for 0-2 months and 3-12 months while there is a increase in all other periods of imprisonment.

Table 20: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to the duration of their imprisonment

Duration of Imprisonment	Number of Applicants in 2014	2014 %	Number of Applicants in 2013	2013 %
0-2 months	8	1,7	9	3,1
3-12 months	51	10,8	84	28,9
13-36 months (1-3 years)	151	32,0	95	32,6
37-60 months (3-5 years)	106	22,5	56	19,2
61-84 months (5-7 years)	62	13,1	21	7,2
85-108 months (7-9 years)	28	5,9	8	2,7
109-132 months (9-11 years)	17	3,6	7	2,4
11-20 years	42	8,9	7	2,4
Longer than 20 years	7	1,5	4	1,4
Total	472	100,0	291	100,0

Looking at the time that elapsed between the release of the imprisoned 472 applicants and their application time to the HRFT in 2014, one can see that 178 applicants (37,7%) applied within a month of their release, 220 applicants (46,6%) applied between 1 to 2 months after their release, and 74 applicants (15,7%) applied after more than a year of their release. Compared to 2013, it can be said that the applicants applied to the HRFT slightly earlier after their release. In 2013, 97 applicants (33,3%) applied within a month, 128 applicants (44%) applied within 1 to 12 months and 66 applicants (22,7%) applied after more than a year.

As one of the factors contributing to the early applications, especially HRFT Diyarbakır Centre performed visits to relevant institutions and attentively and closely monitored the process. The works will be carried on to procure earlier applications to HRFT after release.

Among these 472 applicants with imprisonment history, 337 applicants (71,4%) were released by the court pending a trial. This number was:

- 177 (60,8%) in 2013,
- 93 (42,3%) in 2012,
- 122 (49,4%) in 2011,
- and 107 (57,8%) in 2010. There was an approximately 5% decrease in the number of applicants who were released because of the end of imprisonment and the number of applicants with amnesty/conditional release. Only 5 applicants were released due to the postponement of imprisonment period due to their health issues (Table 21).

Table 21: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to the reasons of release

Reason for Release from Prison	Number of Applicants	%
Released pending trial	337	71.4
End of imprisonment	82	17,4
Amnesty/conditional release	31	6,6
Acquitted	17	3,6
Postponement due to health issues	5	1,1
Total	472	100,0

As we frequently point out, F-Type prisons carries a special importance since those who imprisoned in F-Type prisons are being subjected to more severe isolation conditions than others. Out of the 421 applicants, 197 (41,7%) were held at a F-Type prison which represents an increase of %11 when compared to the average of the last four years. This number was:

- 30,9% in 2013,
- 26,4% in 2012,
- 31,9% in 2011,
- and 31,4% in 2010. The duration of imprisonment of these 197 applicants in a F-Type prison, varied between 1 month and 160 months (13 years and 3 months). Among 472 applicants with imprisonment history, 84 (17,8%) were kept in an isolated cell for 1 to 75 days while 68 applicants (14,4%) were subjected to solitary confinement for durations changing between 1 and 90 days.

When the situations of last four years were compared, the number of applicants who had been subjected while in prison was the highest in 2014 with 291 applicants out of 472 (61,7%). This number was:

- 287 (58,1%) in 2013,
- 92 (41,8%) in 2012,
- 138 (55,8%) in 2011
- and 81 (43,8%) in 2010.

Also, 20 applicants stated that while they were in prison, they were taken by the officers to be interrogated and they also had been tortured during this interrogation.

The Distribution of Those Who were in Penal Institutions Between the Years 1970 to 2015*									
YEAR	CONVICTED				DETAINEE				TOTAL
	Men	Women	Children	Total	Men	Women	Children	Total	
1970	*	*	*	30.119	*	*	*	26.392	56.511
1971	*	*	*	33.416	*	*	*	28.047	61.463
1972	*	*	*	36.140	*	*	*	28.749	64.889
1973	*	*	*	33.722	*	*	*	27.246	60.968
1974	*	*	*	5.442	*	*	*	19.418	24.860
1975	*	*	*	14.276	*	*	*	23.340	37.616
1976	*	*	*	19.881	*	*	*	24.450	44.331
1977	*	*	*	22.632	*	*	*	27.752	50.384
1978	*	*	*	25.212	*	*	*	29.430	54.642
1979	*	*	*	22.417	*	*	*	30.236	52.653
1980	*	*	*	31.241	*	*	*	38.931	70.172
1981	*	*	*	42.446	*	*	*	37.340	79.786
1982	*	*	*	44.650	*	*	*	33.551	78.201
1983	*	*	*	45.144	*	*	*	31.114	76.258
1984	*	*	*	46.370	*	*	*	26.694	73.064
1985	*	*	*	45.388	*	*	*	25.842	71.230
1986	*	*	*	30.786	*	*	*	21.364	52.150
1987	*	*	*	31.315	*	*	*	19.484	50.799
1988	*	*	*	33.078	*	*	*	18.592	51.670
1989	*	*	*	29.407	*	*	*	17.697	47.104
1990	*	*	*	29.373	*	*	*	16.233	45.606
1991	*	*	*	11.047	*	*	*	15.804	26.851
1992	*	*	*	12.823	*	*	*	18.659	31.482
1993	*	*	*	15.147	*	*	*	19.658	34.805

The Distribution of Those Who were in Penal Institutions Between the Years 1970 to 2015*									
YEAR	CONVICTED				DETAINEE				TOTAL
	Men	Women	Children	Total	Men	Women	Children	Total	
1994	*	*	*	16.881	*	*	*	22.050	38.931
1995	*	*	*	22.008	*	*	*	24.083	46.091
1996	*	*	*	26.979	*	*	*	23.904	50.883
1997	*	*	*	36.334	*	*	*	24.272	60.606
1998	*	*	*	41.240	*	*	*	24.925	66.165
1999	*	*	*	44.131	*	*	*	23.450	67.581
31/12/2000	23.708	894	253	24.855	22.595	921	1.141	24.657	49.512
31/12/2001	26.286	903	352	27.541	25.267	1.136	1.665	28.068	55.609
31/12/2002	33.079	1.181	548	34.808	22.197	927	1.497	24.621	59.429
31/12/2003	35.297	1.207	552	37.056	24.613	970	1.657	27.240	64.296
31/12/2004	29.074	925	366	30.365	24.914	1.023	1.628	27.565	57.930
31/12/2005	28.420	882	143	29.445	24.089	930	1.406	26.425	55.870
31/12/2006	34.458	1.086	321	35.865	31.303	1.315	1.794	34.412	70.277
31/12/2007	50.650	1.620	539	52.809	34.353	1.527	2.148	38.028	90.837
31/12/2008	60.444	1.948	671	63.063	36.446	1.651	2.075	40.172	103.235
31/12/2009	73.063	2.305	632	76.000	36.585	1.708	2.047	40.340	116.340
31/12/2010	83.289	2.748	529	86.566	31.262	1.402	1.584	34.248	120.814
31/12/2011	89.252	2.955	410	92.617	32.479	1.584	1.924	35.987	128.604
31/12/2012	100.617	3.278	418	104.313	28.564	1.560	1.583	31.707	136.020
31/12/2013	113.378	3.956	451	117.785	24.966	1.200	1.527	27.693	145.478
31/12/2014	131.136	4.855	540	136.531	19.915	1.522	869	22.306	158.837
31/01/2015	133.770	4.901	538	139.209	19.890	861	1.562	22.313	161.522
28/02/2015	136.289	5.002	560	141.851	20.144	869	1.597	22.610	164.461

*http://www.cte.adalet.gov.tr/menudekiler/istatistikler/yeni_yillar.asp

*There are
291 closed prisons,
53 open prisons,
2 juvenile correction facilities,
5 closed prisons for women,
1 open prison for women
3 closed prisons for children
and total of 355 penal institutions which cumulatively have the capacity of 163.129
people as of the date of 05/01/2015 in Turkey.

*<http://www.cte.adalet.gov.tr/>

As the General Information about Penal Institutions which was prepared by Ministry of Justice-General Directorate of Prisons and Detention Houses indicates, total of 355 penal institutions have the cumulative capacity of 163.129. The most updated information (dated 28.02.2015) states that there are 164.461 people in penal institutions. When these information are evaluated together, overburdened conditions of these institutions regarding ventilation, accommodation, health and communication are insufficient, as in accordance with the applicants' narrations. Considering the current situation, it is not hard to predict that the conditions and the consequences will get worse.

The distribution of the torture methods that 287 applicants out of 472 (%60,8) were subjected to in prison is given in Table 22.

Table 22: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to the methods of torture in prison

Torture Method	Number of Applicants	%
Insulting	192	40,7
Beating	161	34,1
Humiliating	161	34,1
Stripping naked	137	29,0
Threats against the applicant	100	21,2
Other	86	18,2
Death threat	75	15,9
Restricted food/drink	71	15,0
Solitary confinement	68	14,4
Forced to obey nonsensical orders	62	13,1
Continuous hitting on one part of the body	56	11,9
Inhibiting meetings	56	11,9
Threats against relatives/friends	41	8,7
Forced to witness (visual/audio) torture of others	41	8,7
Sleep deprivation	39	8,3
Restricted urination and defecation	38	8,1
Forced to wait in cold environment	36	7,6
Restricted respiration	29	6,1
Sexual harassment	19	4,0
Other positional torture methods	19	4,0
Verbal sexual harassment	18	3,8
Forced to listen to marches and/or high volume music	17	3,6
Blindfolded	16	3,4

Table 22 cont.

Exposure to chemical substances	15	3,2
Pressurized/cold water	14	3,0
Pulling out hair/beard/moustache	11	2,3
Suspension	11	2,3
Forced to wear uniform	10	2,1
Physical sexual harassment	10	2,1
Rectal search	10	2,1
Falanga	9	1,9
Forced excessive physical activity	8	1,7
Electricity	8	1,7
Strappado	7	1,5
Suspending or crucifying	7	1,5
Squeezing testicles	5	1,1
Reverse hanging from the legs	4	0,8
Mock execution	4	0,8
Forced medical intervention	4	0,8
Burning	4	0,8
Asked to act as an informer	4	0,8
Rape	3	0,6
Torture in the presence of relatives/friends	2	0,4
Total	1688	5,8*

**Average number of torture methods one person is subjected to.*

The distribution of the answers of the 472 applicants with imprisonment history, to the questions about prison conditions is given in Table 23.

Table 23: The distribution of the answers of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 about the prison conditions

Prison Condition	Positive	Partly Positive	Negative	Total
Accommodation	52	199	221	472
Nutrition	2	75	395	472
Hygiene	11	124	337	472
Air ventilation	12	120	340	472
Communication	21	168	283	472
Health	7	99	366	472
Condition of transfers	10	80	382	472
Access to media materials	52	199	221	472

Out of the 472 applicants with imprisonment history, 340 applicants (72%) stated that they had participated in a hunger strike for durations changing between 2 days and 340 days at various times and for various reasons while in prison (In 2013 it was 134 applicants, 46%). 21 applicants stated that they had participated in the hunger strike in 1996 which was initiated in 43 prisons and ended after 12 prisoners' death, to protest the May Memorandum which was issued by then Minister of Justice, Mehmet Ağar while also 21 applicants stated that they had participated in hunger strikes which were started when the F-Type prisons first initiated by the government. Others stated that they had participated in a hunger strike at different times.

268 applicants (56,8%) stated that it has been over 1 year since their last hunger strike while 44 applicants' (9,3%) last hunger strike was 4 to 12 months ago, 20 applicants' (4,2%) 1 to 3 months ago. 6 applicants' (1,3%) last hunger strike was in the last month of their application while 2 applicants stated that they had participated in a hunger strike within the week of their application to HRFT.

Among the applicants with a hunger strike history, 310 applicants (91,2%) stated that they staged their hunger strike continuously while 23 applicants (6,8%) did it by turns and 7 applicants (7,1%) had participated intermittently.

C- MEDICAL EVALUATION

This chapter contains information about the health conditions of the applicants, which was determined by medical records, physical examination and other tests, conducted by physicians working at the HRFT's Centres, together with consultant doctors (psychiatrists, physiotherapists and rehabilitation experts, orthopaedic physicians, ENT specialists etc.). It can be said that due to the intension in acute applications and similarities between complaints in 2014, there have been necessities for orthopaedics, ophthalmology, dermatology and pulmonology consultations along with psychiatry.

In this chapter, the treatment process of 756 torture survivors who applied to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres will be evaluated. This process can be best understood by first describing the methodological approach of the HRFT. In the first interview, applicants tells their experiences of torture and their complaints to the physician, in their own words. Following this, the physician asks for the necessary laboratory tests and consultations after an examination and evaluation. S/he expresses their opinion openly to the applicant. In the last stage, the medical history, the examination and tests are evaluated altogether and a relationship between the illness and the torture is established. In this stage, it is important to evaluate the health of the applicant in a holistic way.

An effort is made to introduce the applicant to all the members of the treatment team during the application process of the torture survivors to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres. Those applicants who are not willing to see a psychiatrist are simply informed of their opportunity to see a psychiatrist without any insisting and pressure.

After the evaluation, the applicant receives suggestions as to possible treatment methods for disorders that are not related to torture. The illnesses related to torture are treated in the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres. The applicant is first informed about the program suggested for his or her treatment and rehabilitation. After a joint evaluation (i.e. If the applicant's condition may affect the treatment or vice versa), necessary amendments are made to the treatment and rehabilitation program that is subsequently carried out.

During the process of establishing the relationship between diagnoses and torture, one of the following relations is selected for each of the diagnoses:

- a) It is the sole etiological factor.
- b) It worsened or made a pathological state apparent.
- c) It is one of the etiological factors.
- d) No relation.
- e) The relation could not be detected.

1- Medical Complaints of the Applicants

747 of 756 applicants had a psychological or physical complaint. The applicants indicated a total of 6443 psychological or physical complaints.

Looking at the distribution of these complaints according to the systems, as in every year, psychological complaints were found to be the most common with 27% (27% in 2013, 24,6% in 2012, 34,2% in 2011 and 32,8% in 2010).

Dermatological complaints were the second most common in 2013 with a percentage of 15%, due to the specific conditions of the year. In 2014, dermatological complaints constituted the 7,4% of the complaints and were the fifth common while the percentage of musculoskeletal complaints was 16,4% and second most common as in previous years (Table 24).

Table 24: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to the frequency of their physical and psychological complaints

Systems	Number of Complaints	%
Psychological	1736	26,9
Musculoskeletal	1059	16,4
General	777	12,1
Digestive	631	9,8
Dermatological	477	7,4
Neurological	469	7,3
Ear-Nose and Throat	281	4,4
Respiratory	269	4,2

Table 24 Cont.

Ophthalmological	248	3,8
Urogenital	193	3,0
Oral-Dental	135	2,1
Cardiovascular	128	2,0
Endocrinological	40	0,6
Total	6443	100,0

The number of physical complaints was 4707 while the number of psychological complaints was 1736. Discolouration of the skin was the most common physical complaint (37,5%) in 2013 due to the aforementioned conditions of the year while it was the seventh most common in 2014.

Exhaustion/fatigue was the most common physical complaint in 2014 with the percentage of 34,8%, headache was the second with 29,6% and abdominal pain was the third with 23,3%. In 2014, high number of applicants with imprisonment history has manifested itself with more chronic complaints. Most common physical complaints are given in Table 25.

Table 25: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to the frequency of their physical complaints

10 Most Common Physical Complaints	Number of Complaints	Among the Applicants %	Among the Physical Complaints %
Exhaustion, fatigue	263	34,8	5,6
Headache	224	29,6	4,8
Abdominal pain	176	23,3	3,7
Lower back pain	160	21,2	3,4
Rapid fatigue	149	19,7	3,2
Visual impairment	136	18,0	2,9
Discolouration of the skin	121	16,0	2,6
Loss of appetite	108	14,3	2,3
Heartburn	104	13,8	2,2
Neck pain	103	13,6	2,2
Other physical complaints	3163	-	67,1
Total	4707	-	100,0

As in 2013, sleeping disorders were the most common psychological complaints in 2014 with the percentage of 29,9% (it was 26,2% in 2013). Second and third most common complaints were forgetfulness and distress. In 2013, second most common psychological complaint was anxiety (13,6%) and the third most common was irritability (13%). Most common psychological complaints are given in Table 26.

Table 26: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to the frequency of their psychological complaints

10 Most Common Psychological Complaint	Number of Complaints	Among the Applicants %	Among the Complaints %
Sleeping disorders	226	29,9	13,0
Forgetfulness	197	26,1	11,3
Distress	147	19,4	8,5
Irritability	139	18,4	8,0
Concentration impairment	124	16,4	7,1
Anxiety	107	14,2	6,2
Tension	101	13,4	5,8
Nightmares	76	10,1	4,4
Adaptation problems	71	9,4	4,1
Not being able to enjoy life	70	9,3	4,0
Other psychological complaints	478	-	27,5
Total	1736	-	100,0

2- Findings of the Physical Examinations

The total number of physical findings obtained after the physical examinations of 721 applicants, was 2586. Looking at the distribution of these findings according to the systems, the two most common findings of the year 2013 (musculoskeletal and dermatological) have changed in 2014. When compared to 2013, there was a decrease of 17,4% in dermatological findings in 2014 which is directly related to the decrease in acute applications. The number of applicants who were subjected to torture at the year of application was 25% higher in 2013 than 2014. Accordingly, because those applicants who were subjected to torture at the year of application in 2013 were mostly subjected to police violence during demonstrations and protest, the dermatological findings were the most common.

Table 27: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to the physical findings of medical examinations

Systems	Number of Findings	%
Musculoskeletal	721	27,9
Dermatological	667	25,7
Oral-Dental	407	15,7
Digestive	247	9,6
Ear-Nose-Throat	160	6,2
Ophthalmological	128	5,7

Table 27 Cont.

Cardiovascular	81	3,1
Respiratory	50	1,9
Neurological	48	1,9
Urogenital	41	1,6
Endocrinological	15	0,6
Memory disorders	1	0,04
Total	2586	100,0

Even though dermatological complaints were less common in 2014 compared to 2013, one can see that ecchymose (bruised skin) was found in 156 applicants (20,6% in all applicants) and was the most common physical finding. Ecchymose was found in

- 36,6% of the applicants in 2013
- 29,1% of the applicants in 2012
- 22% of the applicants in 2011,
- and 18,4% of the applicants in 2010.

In 2013, ten most common physical findings included five dermatological findings (ecchymose, scar tissue, scabbing of the skin, oedema and cuts on the skin). In 2014, there are three dermatological findings (ecchymose, scar tissue and erosion) in ten most common physical findings. This case carries an importance due to the fact that traces of beating as the most common torture method, can be still found in the physical complaints and findings as previous years.

Those applicants with imprisonment history stated that they started to have gastrointestinal disorders due to malnutrition caused by poor meals at the prison or their pre-existent gastrointestinal disorders became more severe during their imprisonment period. This situation can be related by high numbers of gastrointestinal complaints and findings and it per se is a topic of research.

Ten most common physical findings are given in Table 28.

Table 28: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to their physical findings

Ten Most Common Physical Findings	Number of Findings	Among the Applicants %	Among all the Physical Findings %
Ecchymose	156	20,6	6,0
Epigastrium sensitivity	146	19,3	5,6
Scar tissue	145	19,2	5,6

Table 28 Cont.

Pain in and restricted movement of the lower back	142	18,8	5,5
Missing tooth	133	17,6	5,1
Decayed tooth	130	17,2	5,0
Pain in and restricted movement of the neck	115	15,2	4,4
Muscular pain and sensitivity	108	14,3	4,2
Visual impairment	82	10,8	3,2
Erosion	82	10,8	3,2
Other physical findings	1347	-	52,1
Total	2586	-	100,0

3- Psychiatric Symptoms and Findings

Psychiatric examinations of the applicants revealed that there was at least one psychiatric symptom or finding in 170 applicants (22,5%) (it was 320 applicants (37,9%) in 2013). When looked at the total of 2135 symptoms and findings including 57 different symptoms and findings: difficulty in falling or staying asleep as a sleeping disorder was the most common psychiatric symptom. Anxiety, irritability and/or easy outburst and difficulties in concentration were also again among the most common psychiatric symptoms and findings this year. Table 29 shows the psychiatric symptoms and findings found in applicants.

Table 29: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to their psychiatric symptoms and findings

Psychiatric Symptoms and Findings	Number of Symptoms and Findings	Among the Applicants %	Among all Symptoms and Findings %
Difficulties in falling or staying asleep	106	62,9	5,0
Anxiety	100	59,4	4,7
Irritability and/or easy outburst	91	54,1	4,3
Difficulties in concentration	80	47,6	3,7
Sense of detachment or estrangement from others	72	42,4	3,4
Intense psychological distress at exposure to stimuli associated with trauma	71	41,8	3,3
Recurrent and intrusive distressing recollections of the traumatic event	70	41,2	3,3

Table 29 Cont.

Physiological reactions to stimuli associated with trauma	68	40,0	3,2
Sense of foreshortened future	67	39,4	3,1
Flashback experiences and acting or feeling as if the traumatic event were recurring	66	38,8	3,1
Recurrent and distressing dreams of the traumatic event	66	38,8	3,1
Fatigue, weakness, lack of energy	63	37,6	3,0
Absentmindedness, lethargy	60	35,9	2,8
Hypervigilance	60	35,3	2,8
Depressive mood	59	35,3	2,8
Increase or decrease in sleep duration	59	35,3	2,8
Efforts to avoid activities, people or places that arouse the recollection of the trauma	58	34,1	2,7
Memory impairment	56	32,9	2,6
Markedly diminished interest or participation in significant events	55	32,4	2,6
Somatic anxiety symptoms (palpitation, distress, sweating etc.)	54	32,4	2,5
Muscle strain	54	32,4	2,5
Hopelessness, desperation	52	31,2	2,4
Intense reactions of fear, hopelessness or terror to experienced or witnessed traumatic events	52	30,6	2,4
Changes in appetite/weight (increase or decrease)	50	30,0	2,3
Agitation (hyperactivity, irritability)	50	30,0	2,3
Efforts to avoid thoughts, feeling and conversations associated with the trauma	49	28,8	2,3
Exaggerated startle response	48	28,2	2,2
Anhedonia, apathy	47	28,2	2,2
Difficulties in decision making	45	27,1	2,1
Feelings of worthlessness and low self-esteem	42	25,3	2,0
Feelings of guilt	31	18,8	1,5
Diminished psychomotor activities	30	18,2	1,4
Blunted affect (or bluntness)	30	17,6	1,4
Reduction in awareness of surrounding environment	29	17,1	1,4
Decrease in sexual interest	24	14,7	1,1
Dysphoric mood	22	12,9	1,0
Inability to remember key aspects of the trauma	20	11,8	0,9

Table 29 Cont.

Depersonalization	17	10,0	0,8
Suicidal thoughts and/or attempts	13	7,6	0,6
Derealisation	11	6,5	0,5
Convulsive faint	5	2,9	0,2
Hallucinations (visual, audio, tactile, scent)	4	2,4	0,2
Usage of alcohol and/or drugs	4	2,4	0,2
Compulsion	4	2,4	0,2
Obsession	4	2,4	0,2
Delusions	3	1,8	0,1
Negative symptoms (affective bluntness, superficiality, avolition)	3	1,8	0,1
Other convulsive symptoms and deficits	2	1,2	0,1
Hyperactivity, increased intentional activity	2	1,2	0,1
Tics (vocal and motor)	2	1,2	0,1
Diminished orientation	1	0,6	0,0
Expansive mood	1	0,6	0,0
Disorganized speech or behaviour	1	0,6	0,0
Hallucinations (visual, audio, tactile)	1	0,6	0,0
Excessive talking, accentuating	1	0,6	0,0
Total	2135	-	100,0

4- Diagnoses

The evaluation of the diagnoses of applicants was carried out for total of 710 applicants who were diagnosed with a condition by the end of 2014. 234 different and total of 1933 diagnoses were determined. 1700 (87,9%) of all diagnoses were physical (79,3% in 2013) while 233 diagnoses (12,1%) were psychological (20,7% in 2013).

The most common physical diagnosis was soft tissue trauma which was found in 244 applicants (34,4%). Soft tissue trauma was again the most common diagnose in 2011, 2012 and 2013 and diagnosed in:

- 318 out of 771 applicants (41,2%) in 2013,
- 164 out of 472 applicants (34,7%) in 2012,
- and 148 out of 440 applicants (33,6%) in 2011.

Table 30 shows the ten most common physical diagnoses found in 710 applicants.

Table 30: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to their physical diagnoses

Ten Most Common Physical Diagnoses	Number of Applicants	%
Soft tissue trauma	244	34,4
Gastroesophageal reflux	99	13,9
Myopia-Hypermetropia	96	13,5
Lumber discopathy	85	12,0
Cuts or bruises on the skin	66	9,3
Cervical discopathy	59	8,3
Bronchitis	54	7,6
Gastritis	49	6,9
Hypertension	32	4,5
Meniscopathy	27	3,8
Other diagnoses	889	-
Total	1700	-

210 of 756 applicants (27,8%) were evaluated by a mental health specialist and 182 of these applicants (86,7%) were diagnosed with at least one psychiatric condition. 61 applicants (26,2%) were diagnosed with Chronic Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Chronic PTSD was again the most common psychiatric diagnosis in 2013 with the percentage of 20,3%. Second most common psychiatric diagnosis was Major Depressive Disorder (sole episode) which was found in 32 applicants (13,7%) and the third most common diagnosis was Generalized Anxiety Disorder with 30 applicants (12,9%). High numbers of applicants with imprisonment history is the main reason of prevalent chronic diagnoses.

Table 31 presents the ten most common psychiatric diagnoses and their frequency.

Table 31: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to their psychiatric diagnoses

Ten Most Common Psychiatric Diagnoses	Number of Applicants	%
PTSD (Chronic)	61	26,2
Major depressive disorder, sole episode	32	13,7
Generalized anxiety disorder	30	12,9
Major depressive disorder, recurrent	27	11,6
Acute stress disorder	15	6,4
PTSD (Acute)	15	6,4
Other anxiety disorders	14	6,0

Table 31 Cont.

Adjustment disorder	11	4,7
Mixed anxiety-depressive disorder	6	2,6
Social anxiety disorder	2	0,9
Other diagnoses	20	8,6
Total	233	100,0

46 of 756 applicants (6,1%) were not diagnosed with any physical or psychiatric disorder.

When the relationship between diagnoses and the torture experienced by the applicants is examined, disregarding diagnoses that were unrelated to the trauma, 608 diagnoses (31,9%) were found relevant to the trauma and the torture period was regarded as the only etiological factor (56,3% in 2013). It is also found that in 508 diagnoses (26,6%), being subjected to torture was one of the etiological factors (10,8% in 2013); in 161 diagnoses (8,4%), being subjected to torture have aggravated or inflamed an existent pathological situation (11,7% in 2013).

Torture was not an etiological factor in 21% of the diagnoses. Also, this evaluation was not carried out in 12% of the diagnoses.

D- TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION PROCESS

In this chapter, the treatment and rehabilitation services provided at HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres and their results are going to be evaluated.

1- Applied Treatment Methods

Regarding the treatment methods applied for a total of 738 applicants, 443 (56,6%) received medication, 129 (16,6%) were given exercise programs, 96 (12,3%) received psycho-pharmacotherapy. 76 applicants (9,7%) were provided with glasses, 58 applicants (7,4%) received physiotherapy and 49 applicants (6,3%) received psychotherapy.

30 applicants (3,8%) received surgery (32 applicants, 3,8% in 2013).

469 applicants (59,9%) were especially informed about their therapy method, their complaints and/or treatment processes. The distribution of treatment methods applied to the applicants is presented in Table 32.

Table 32: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to the treatment method applied

Applied Treatment Method	Number of Applicants	%
Lifestyle recommendations	469	59,9
Medication	443	56,6
Exercise	129	16,5
Psycho-pharmacotherapy	96	12,3
Glasses	76	9,7
Physiotherapy	58	7,4
Psychotherapy	49	6,3
Surgery	30	3,8
Orthopaedic implements (orthosis, crutches, sole support etc.)	18	2,3
Dental treatment	13	1,7
Hearing aid	1	0,1
Hyperbaric oxygen therapy	1	0,1
Applicant did not appear at the appointment	31	4,0
Total	1414	1,8*

**The average number of treatment methods applied to one applicant*

2- Results of the Treatment and Rehabilitation Processes

The results of the treatment prescribed to the applicants as a result of the diagnoses, are given in Table 33. 92 applicants (12,2%) with physical complaints left their treatment process unfinished for various reasons either before a diagnosis was made or after the beginning of the treatment (123 applicants, 14,6% in 2013). There was a slight decrease in this percentage compared to 2013, but in general, there is an increasing trend for this number.

Table 33: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to the results of their physical treatment

Result of Physical Treatment	Number of Applicants	%
Treatment was completed	442	58,5
Treatment continues	112	14,8
No disorder was detected related to torture or prison experience	74	9,8
Treatment was discontinued without a diagnosis	52	6,9
Treatment was discontinued after having started	40	5,3

Table 33 Cont.

Diagnostic stage continues	31	4,1
Applicants did not appear at the first appointment	4	0,5
Transferred	1	0,1
Total	756	100,0

After the evaluation by centre physicians, all applicants are being advised to see a psychiatrist. In 2014, 95 applicants who accepted this advice did not appear at the appointment. 25 applicants who were diagnosed with a mental condition did not accept treatment. 280 applicants (including 130 applicants who were detained in the year 2014), refused to go through the psychiatric treatment process that was suggested to them. The total number of applicants who left their treatment process unfinished (including those who refused treatment) is 107 (14,2%) (it was 116, 13,7 in 2013%). There was not found any psychiatric pathology in 134 applicants by the physician or mental health specialist (121 in 2013). Table 34 shows the results of the psychiatric treatment processes in 2014.

Table 34: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 according to the results of their psychiatric treatment

Result of Psychiatric Treatment	Number of Applicants	%
Treatment was completed	38	5,0
Treatment continues	76	10,1
Diagnostic stage continues	12	1,6
No disorder was detected related to torture or prison experience	134	17,7
Treatment was discontinued after having started	52	6,9
Treatment was discontinued without a diagnosis	30	4,0
Applicant did not appear at the first appointment	95	12,6
Physician arranged a psychological treatment	13	1,7
Applicant refused psychiatric examination	280	37,0
Applicant refused psychiatric treatment	25	3,3
Transferred	1	0,1
Total	756	100,0

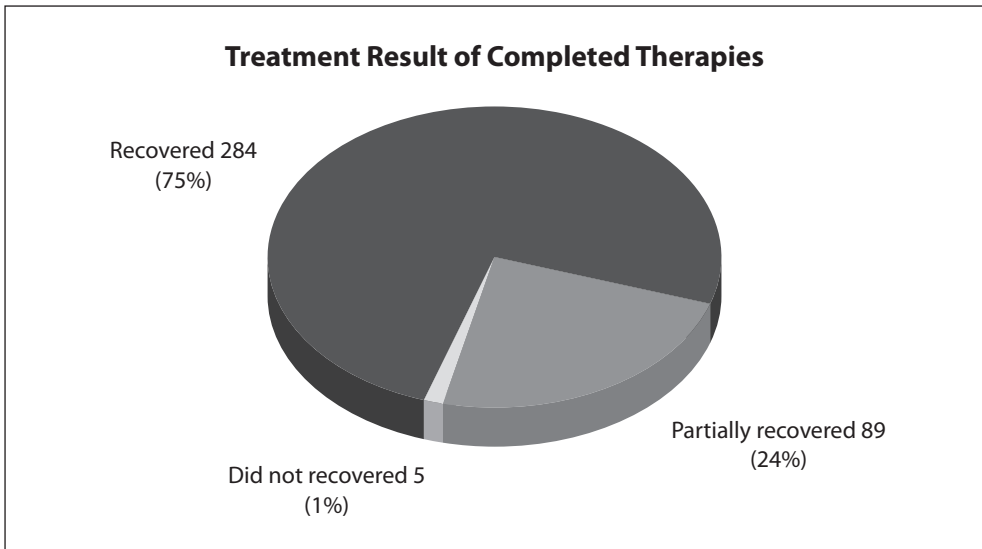
In 2014, total of 156 applicants (20,6%) discontinued their treatment process either after having started or without a diagnosis (it was 197 applicants, 23,3% in 2013). The course of the treatment and rehabilitation processes of all applicants in 2014 is presented in Table 35.

Table 35: The results of the physical and psychiatric treatment processes of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014

Progress of the Cases	Number of Applicants	%
Treatment was completed	378	50,0
Treatment continues	155	20,5
No disorder was detected related to torture or prison experience	27	3,6
Treatment was discontinued after having started	90	11,9
Treatment was discontinued without a diagnosis	66	8,7
Diagnostic stage continues	34	4,5
Applicant did not appear at the first appointment	5	0,7
Transferred	1	0,1
Total	756	100,0

274 of 378 applicants (75,1%) whose treatment was completed in 2014, completely recovered while 89 applicants (23,5%) partially recovered and 5 applicants (1,3%) did not show any recovery (Chart 6).

Chart 7: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in 2014 -whose treatments were completed- according to the treatment results



II- EVALUATION OF THE APPLICANTS WHO WERE SUBJECTED TO TORTURE AND ILL-TREATMENT IN DETENTION IN 2014

This section contains a separate evaluation of the social and demographic characteristics of applicants to the HRFT who had been tortured in detention (TID), as well as the analysis of the information regarding the process of torture and medical reviews.

Total of 260 applicants out of 756 (34%) stated that they had been subjected to torture and ill-treatment in detention in 2014. This number was:

- 160 applicants out of 343 (47%) in 2010,
- 224 applicants out of 484 (46%) in 2011,
- 236 applicants out of 506 (47%) in 2012,
- 500 applicants out of 844 (59%) in 2013.

300 applicants stated that they had been subjected to torture and ill-treatment. However, 40 (52) of these applicants' most recent detention was before the year 2014 and they had been subjected to torture while they were imprisoned.

The aim of evaluating the datum on torture in detention in 2014 in a separate section, is to describe the current situation regarding torture in Turkey, and to evaluate the medical problems that was found in those who applied to HRFT immediately after being tortured.

Information on when and where the applicants were last subjected to torture, torture methods, the medical forensic examinations that were carried out due to legal requirements at the beginning, at the end of and sometimes in the middle of detention processes and the conditions under which the medical reports were prepared and the judicial processes after detention, provides an objective criteria for the evaluation of the claims that torture still continues to be a systematically applied practice.

A- SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

1- Age and Sex

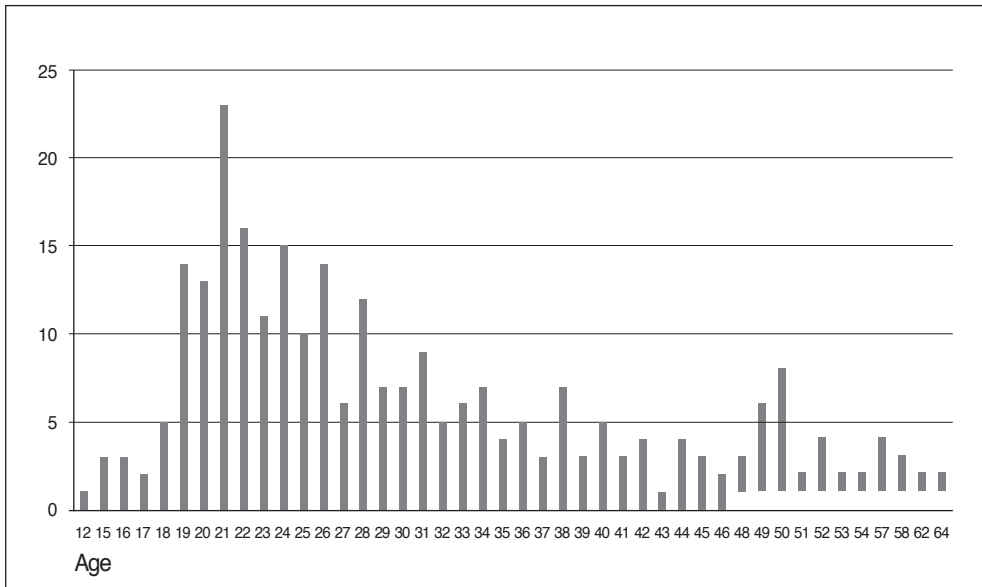
The applicants' ages ranged between 12 and 64. The average age was 29,9. The average age of all applicants (34,5) was 4,6 ages higher from the average age of applicants who were tortured in detention in 2014. As a reason for this situation, majority of those applicants who were tortured in detention in 2014 (56,9%) is between the ages of 19 and 30 (46% in 2013). 29 of these applicants (11%) were over the age of 46 (15% in 2013).

The percentage of applicants at the age group of 0-18, slightly decreased when compared to last year. It was 5,4% in 2014 and 7,4% in 2013. The distribution of age groups of the applicants is presented in Table 36 and Chart 8 shows the age distribution of the applicants.

Table 36: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT’s Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014 according to their age groups

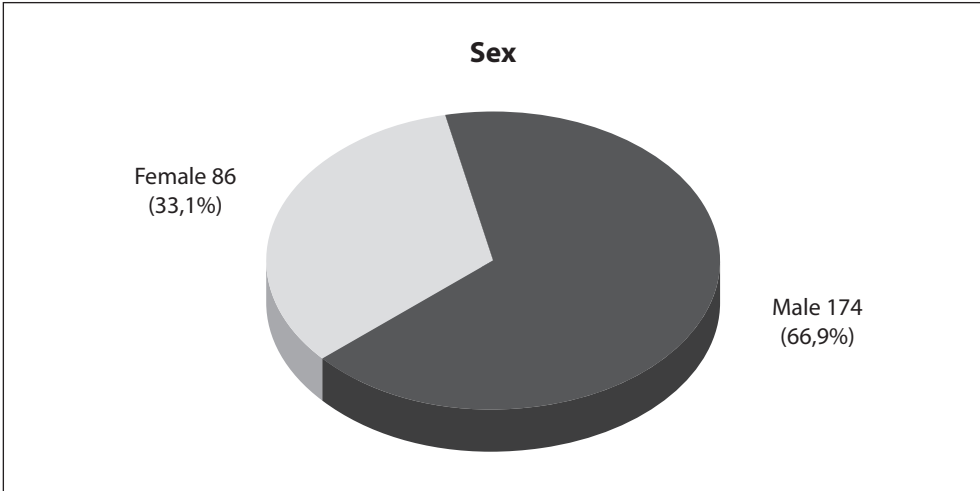
Age Group	Number of Applicants		%	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
0-18	14	37	5,4	7,4
19-25	102	132	39,2	26,4
26-30	46	98	17,7	19,6
31-35	31	73	11,9	14,6
36-40	23	55	8,8	11,0
41-45	15	29	5,8	5,8
46 and over	29	76	11,2	15,2
Total	260	500	100,0	100,0

Chart 8: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT’s Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014 according to their ages



174 of the applicants (66,9%) were male while 86 (33,1%) was female (316, 63,2% male and 181, 36,2% female in 2013) (Chart 9). The ratio of 1/3 in the numbers of female and male applicants was present as in almost every year.

Chart 9: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014 according to their gender identity



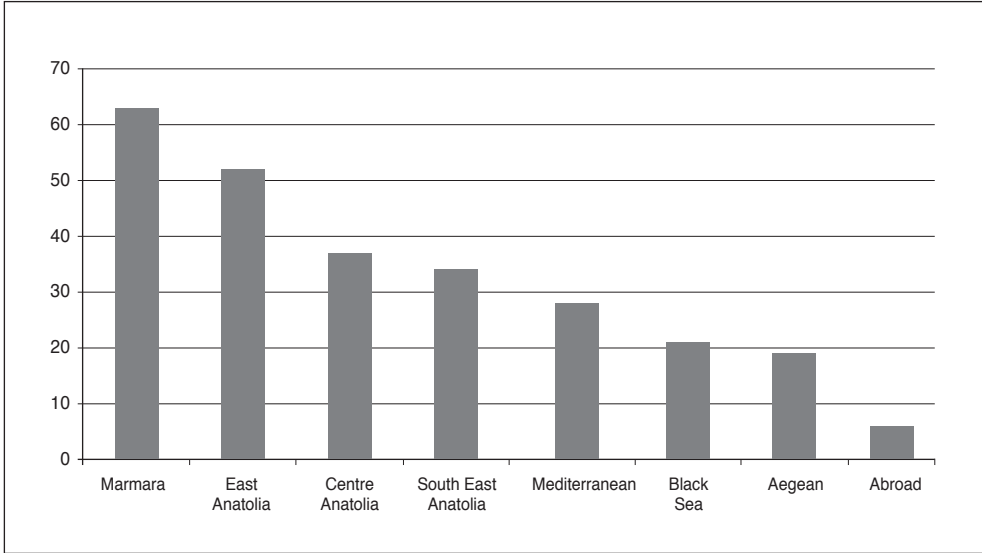
2- Place of Birth

As in 2013, the majority and almost one fourth of the applicants (63 applicants, 24,2%) were from the Marmara region (125, 25% in 2013).

- Eastern Anatolia region was in the second rank with 52 applicants which constituted one fifth of all applicants in 2014 (81 applicants, 16,2% in 2013);
- Central Anatolia region was in the third rank with 37 applicants (14,2%) (85 applicants, 17% in 2013);
- South-Eastern Anatolia region was in the fourth rank with 34 applicants (13,1%) (42 applicants, 8,4% in 2013);
- Mediterranean region was in the fifth rank with 28 applicants (10,8%) (53 applicants, 10,6% in 2013);
- 21 applicants (8,1%) were from Black Sea region (52 applicants, 10,4% in 2013);
- 19 applicants (7,3%) were from Aegean region (44 applicants, 8,8% in 2013);
- 6 applicants (2,3%) were born in abroad (18 applicants, 3,6% in 2013).

33,1% of all applicants were born in either Eastern or South-Eastern Anatolia regions (this percentage was 24,6% in 2013, 41,9% in 2012, 30,8% in 2011 and 43,7% in 2010) which represents an increase of 8,5% when compared to 2013. The regional distribution of the applicants according to their birthplaces is presented in Chart 10.

Chart 10: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014 according to their birthplaces



In regards to the birthplaces of applicants at the provincial level, it can be seen that the majority of the applicants (55 applicants, 21,2%) in 2014 were born in İstanbul (94 applicants, 18,8% in 2013) with an increase of 2,4% when compared to 2013. The provinces in which at least 10 applicants were born were:

- Diyarbakır (20 applicants, 7,7%),
- Ankara (13 applicants, 5%),
- Sivas and İzmir (both 11 applicants, 4,2%).

Last year, most of the applicants were from İstanbul, Ankara and İzmir, respectively.

In the last four years, İstanbul, as the most crowded province in the country and the high flow of domestic migration, has been one of those provinces which the highest number of the applicants were from. In the distribution of the provinces of birth, majority of the applicants are generally from those provinces with a HRFT Centre.

3- Educational Background and Employment Status

There was no illiterate applicant in 2014. There was an increase of 7% in the percentage of applicants who were high school graduates while there was an decrease of 8,2% in the percentage of applicants who were university/college graduates. The percentage of applicants who were middle-school graduates increased for 4,2% while there was a slight decrease of 1,3% in the percentage of those applicants who were primary school graduates. Almost 45% of the applicants were high school graduates.

The evaluation was made as considering the last institute the applicants were graduated from. Thus, it was assumed that the primary school students were only literate, middle school students were primary school graduates, high school students were middle school graduates and university/college students were high school graduates (Table 37).

Table 37: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014 according to their educational background

Educational Background	Number of Applicants		%	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
University/college graduate	62	160	23,8	32,0
University/college dropout	12	23	4,6	4,6
High school graduate	116	188	44,6	37,6
Middle school graduate	49	73	18,8	14,6
Primary school graduate	19	43	7,3	8,6
Only literate	2	7	0,8	1,4
Illiterate	-	6	-	1,2
Total	260	500	100,0	100,0

In regards to the employment status of the applicants, there was a significant increase of 10,6% in the percentage of unemployed applicants (80 applicants, 30,8%) –which were the majority in 2014- when compared to the last year (it was 20,2% in 2013). The general profile of the applicants in 2013, was directly effected from the participation of youth and people from many different social groups to the Gezi Park protests. Among the applicants in 2014:

- 24,2% of 62 university/college graduates,
- 50% of 12 university/college dropouts,
- 20,7% of high school graduates
- 44,9% of middle school graduates
- and every primary school graduates were unemployed.

The distribution of those applicants according to their age groups was:

- 2,5% of the 0-18 group (2 applicants),
- 43,8% of the 19-25 group (35 applicants),
- 17,5% of the 26-30 group (14 applicants),
- 13,8% of the 31-35 group (11 applicants),
- 8,8% of the 36-40 group (7 applicants),
- 3,8% of the 41-45 group (3 applicants),

and every 8 applicants in the age group of 46 and over, were unemployed.

In 2013, majority of the applicants were university/college students with the percentage of 20,2%. There was an increase of 8,3% in the number of university/college students in 2014.

Table 38: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014 according to their employment status

Employment Status	Number of Applicants		%	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Unemployed	80	86	30,8	17,2
University/college student	74	101	28,5	20,2
Tradesman (working in shop or office of their own)	19	37	7,3	7,4
Office worker in private sector (secretary, bank clerk etc.)	14	62	5,4	12,4
Primary or middle school student	13	34	5,0	6,8
Journalist	10	23	3,8	4,6
Teacher	9	9	3,5	1,8
Lawyer	7	8	2,7	1,6
Artist	6	22	2,3	4,4
Construction worker	6	10	2,3	2,0
Industrial worker in private sector	5	27	1,9	5,4
Retired	4	23	1,5	4,6
Office worker in public sector (secretary, bank clerk etc.)	4	8	1,5	1,6
NGO staff	3	21	1,2	4,2
Housewife	2	3	0,8	0,6
Agricultural worker	1	2	0,4	0,4
Engineer	1	9	0,4	1,8
Street vendor	1	-	0,4	-
Industrial worker in public sector	1	4	0,4	0,8
Farmer, fishermen etc.	-	2	-	0,4
Doctor	-	1	-	0,2
Children aged 0 to 5	-	2	-	0,4
Total	260	500	100,0	100,0

B- PROCESS OF TORTURE

In this section, we will evaluate the information obtained from those 260 applicants who were subjected to torture and ill-treatment in detention in 2014 and applied to one of the five Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres of HRFT in 2014.

1- The Process of Detention and Torture

246 of the 260 applicants (94,6%) stated that they had been subjected to torture and ill-treatment in detention in 2014 due to the political reasons (it was 95,8% in 2013 and 79,7% in 2012). 12 applicants (4,6%) stated that they had been tortured and ill-treated due to the non-political judiciary reasons (it was 3,6% in 2013 and 7,4% in 2012) while 2 applicants (0,8%) were tortured and ill-treated because of their status of asylum-seeker.

When looked at the distribution of the applicants according to the duration of their most recent detention (Table 39), 207 applicants (79,6%) were detained for less than 24 hours. This number was:

- 438 applicants (87,6%) in 2013,
- 155 applicants (65,7%) in 2012,
- 127 applicants (56,7%) in 2011.

The high percentage of those applicants who were detained for less than 24 hours in 2014 is quite noticeable when evaluated together with the specific conditions of 2013.

The proposed law named Internal Security Package which caused a severe public unrest, “the mindset which labels every opposition as terrorism” unfortunately shows itself more clear with the justification that states “it is a necessity to take precautions against the current social events which became a medium for the propaganda of terror organizations and which dangers the security of life and property of the citizens, without unbalancing the balance of freedom-security”. The concept of “security” has always been a baseline for all the rulerships’ regime, and all social requests to extend rights and freedoms were stonewalled by the “security”.

23 applicants (8,8%) were detained for 24-48 hours (in 2013, 23 applicants, 4,6%, in 2012, 19 applicants, 8,1%; and in 2011, 26 applicants, 11,6%). Detention that lasted five days (1 applicant), are due to the late completion of interrogation with taking individuals to court on the fifth day of detention, after the legal limitation for duration of detention (4 days) passed. And the detention that lasted ten days (1 applicant) was recorded as an unrecorded/unofficial detention practice in which the person was detained from the country border, transferred directly to a prison cell and released without confronting with a prosecutor. Unrecorded/unofficial detention practices are continuing to occur in variety of ways.

The Internal Security Package authorizes the police with two more practices (alongside the authority to detain or arrest which was given by the Law of Police Powers) which are “to put under protection” and “to expel” people according to nature of the action and the situation. These vague authorisations are clearly legalizes the practice of torture from the moment of detention and also means renunciation from procedural security practices.

Table 39: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT’s Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014 according to the lenght of their most recent detention

Length of the Most Recent Detention	Number of Applicants		%	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Less than 24 hours	207	438	79,6	87,6
24-48 hours	23	23	8,8	4,6
49-72 hours	24	17	9,2	3,4
73-96 hours	4	17	1,5	3,4
5-7 days	1	2	0,4	0,4
8-15 days	1	2	0,4	0,4
More than 1 month	-	1	-	0,2
Total	260	500	100,0	100,0

In regards to the place of arrest, 212 applicants (81,5%) were arrested on the street or at another outdoor location (it was 438 applicants, 87,8% in 2013, 165 applicants, 69,9% in 2012; and 147 applicants, 65,6% in 2011). 175 of 207 applicants (84,5%) who were detained for less than 24 hours, were arrested on the street or at another outdoor location (in 2013, it was 410 out of 438 applicants, 93,6%). 141 of 175 applicants who were arrested at outdoors and detained for less than 24 hours, were released without being taken to prosecution. In other words, there were no justification to refer these applicants to judicial authorities. The distribution of the places of arrest for the most recent detention is presented in Table 40.

Table 40: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014 according to the place of their most recent detention

Place of Most Recent Detention	Number of Applicants		%	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Outdoors	212	438	81,5	87,6
Public institution	31	13	11,9	2,6
Home	10	23	3,8	4,6
Private office (NGO, press office etc.)	1	9	0,4	1,8
Workplace	1	12	0,4	2,4
Other	-	5	1,9	1,0
Total	260	500	100,0	100,0

Because most of the applicants were arrested on the street during demonstrations or protest marches, arrests were primarily occurred between 08:00 and 18:00, with the percentage of 63,8% (319 applicants) in 2013. In 2014, this percentage was 46,2% with 120 applicants which represents a decrease of 17,6%. On the other hand, the percentage of those who were detained between the hours of 18:00 and 24:00 increased for 17,6%. Those 200 applicants (76,9%) who were detained between the hours of 08:00 and 24:00, were arrested in outdoors and 139 of these applicants (53,5%) stated that they had been subjected to torture in outdoors.

The distribution of applicants according to the time of their most recent arrest is presented in Table 41 and the place of their most recent torture experience is shown in Table 42.

Table 41: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014 according to the time of their most recent detention

Time of Most Recent Detention	Number of Applicants		%	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
08.00 - 18.00	120	319	46,2	63,8
18.00 - 24.00	107	118	41,2	23,6
24.00 - 08.00	33	52	12,7	10,4
Unknown	-	11	-	2,2
Total	260	500	100,0	100,0

Regarding the place of torture during applicants' most recent detention, 148 applicants (56,9%) were tortured in outdoors (387 applicants, 77,4% in 2013). There

was an increase of 13,8% in the percentage of those applicants who were tortured in security directorates. Similarly, there was an increase of 6% in the percentage of those applicants who were tortured in police stations while the percentage of applicants who were tortured in a car decreased.

Narratives of the applicants shows that the torture takes place in more than one stage of detention, but it is not possible to reflect this to the statistics due to the deficiencies in the registry system. Torture is taking place during detention, while being taken to a detention centre, and even while being taken to judicial institutions. The place of the most intense and severe torture was prioritized when registering in the report.

Table 42: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014 according to the place of their most recent torture

Place of Most Recent Torture	Number of Applicants		%	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Outdoors	148	387	56,9	77,4
Security directorate	62	50	23,8	10,0
Police station	23	14	8,8	2,8
In a car	4	21	1,5	4,2
Gendarmerie directorate	3	2	1,2	0,4
Home or workplace	1	4	0,4	0,8
Other	19	20	7,3	4,0
Unknown/not remembered	-	2	-	0,4
Total	260	500	100,0	100,0

Turning to the regional distribution of the place of the most recent torture, the Marmara Region comes in first (152 applicants, 58,5%), followed by Aegean region (55 applicants, 7,3%) and South-Eastern Anatolia region (21 applicants, 2,8%) (Table 43).

In the provincial distribution of the most recent torture İstanbul was in the first rank (151 applicants, 58,1%), followed by other provinces with a HRFT Centre, İzmir (48 applicants, 18,5%), Ankara and Diyarbakır (both with 15 applicants, 5,8%). Adana, Manisa, Şırnak, Denizli, Şanlıurfa, Bingöl, Elazığ, Van, Bilecik, Mardin and abroad were also the places in which the applicants were subjected to torture in detention. 31 applicants (11,9%) were tortured in provinces with no HRFT Centre.

The provincial distribution of the places of torture in detention is given in Table 44.

Table 43: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014 according to the regions in which they experienced their most recent torture

Region of Most Recent Torture	Number of Applicants		%	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Marmara	152	336	58,5	67,2
Aegean	55	41	21,2	8,2
South-Eastern Anatolia	21	13	8,1	2,6
Central Anatolia	15	74	5,8	14,8
Mediterranean	12	30	4,6	6,0
Eastern Anatolia	3	2	1,2	0,4
Black Sea	-	1	-	0,2
Abroad	2	3	0,8	0,6
Total	260	500	100,0	100,0

Table 44: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014 according to the provinces in which they experienced their most recent torture

Province of Most Recent Torture	Number of Applicants		%	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
İstanbul	151	334	58,1	66,8
İzmir	48	40	18,5	8,0
Diyarbakır	15	10	5,8	2,0
Ankara	15	73	5,8	14,6
Adana	12	18	4,6	3,6
Manisa	4	1	1,5	0,2
Şırnak	3	2	1,2	0,4
Denizli	3	-	1,2	-
Şanlıurfa	2	1	0,8	0,2
Bingöl	1	-	0,4	-
Elazığ	1	-	0,4	-
Van	1	-	0,4	-
Bilecik	1	-	0,4	-
Mardin	1	-	0,4	-
Hatay	-	7	-	1,4
Mersin	-	4	-	0,8

Table 44 Cont.

Konya	-	1	-	0,2
Hakkari	-	1	-	0,2
Bursa	-	1	-	0,2
Kocaeli	-	1	-	0,2
Amasya	-	1	-	0,2
Ağrı	-	1	-	0,2
Isparta	-	1	-	0,2
Abroad	2	3	0,8	0,6
Total	260	500	100,0	100,0

Looking at the detention centres where applicants' most recent torture was inflicted in more detail, it can be seen that three centres in İstanbul are among the first ranks. Most applicants were tortured in the İstanbul Anti-Terror Branch (İstanbul ATB), as it was in 2013 with 12 applicants. İstanbul Beyoğlu Police Station and İstanbul Esenyurt Gendarmerie Station were the second and the third. The distribution of the applicants according to the detention centre of their most recent torture is given in Table 45. Beyazıt Police Station, Üsküdar Doğancılar Police Station, Beyoğlu Security Directorate, Karaköy Police Station and Kadıköy İskele Police Station in the list, are also in İstanbul. Among those 85 applicants who stated that they were tortured in a detention centre, 55 of them (64,7%) were tortured in a detention centre in İstanbul.

Table 45: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014 according to the detention centres where the most recent torture took place

Centre of the Most Recent Torture in Detention	Number of Applicants	%
İstanbul ATB	36	13,8
Beyoğlu Police Station	5	1,9
Esenyurt Gendarmerie Station	5	1,9
Adana Security Directorate	4	1,5
Diyarbakır ATB	4	1,5
Diyarbakır Security Directorate	4	1,5
Beyazıt Police Station	3	1,2
Üsküdar Doğancılar Police Station	2	0,8
İzmir Bozyaka ATB	2	0,8
Beyoğlu Security Directorate	2	0,8
Ankara Security Directorate	2	0,8
Karaköy Police Station	2	0,8

Table 45 Cont.

Diyarbakır Polis School	2	0,8
Kadıköy İskele Police Station	2	0,8
Other Security Directorate and ATB	10	3,8
Other Police Station	5	1,9
Other Gendarmerie Station/Directorate	3	1,2
Unknown/not remembered	2	0,8
Abroad	1	0,4
Was not subjected to torture at a centre	164	63,1
Total	260	100,0

**Those who were subjected to torture at home, outdoors, in a car or at other places*

Table 46 presents the torture methods inflicted on the applicants during their most recent torture. In the previous years, those who were tortured in detention were mostly subjected to beating. In 2013, exposure to chemical substances were the most common torture method with the percentage of 73,8%. Only during the Gezi Park protests in 2013, 130.000 gas capsule were used by the police. As can be followed by the means of press, due to this excessive usage, Security General Directorate has quickly initiated a tender to refill their stockpile in 2014.

(see: http://www.radikal.com.tr/turkiye/polis_20_gunde_ne_kadar_biber_gazi_kullandi-1138224).

Due to the excessive usage of tear gas, thirty non-governmental organizations including HRFT, Human Rights Association (HRA), Chamber of Mechanical Engineers and Turkish Medical Association, established the “Ban the Tear Gas Initiative” and in the annual reports of this initiative showed that the usage of tear gas was almost as high as 2013 in 2014. As the initiative stated in its report, tear gas is a dangerous, deadly and harmful chemical weapon and caused at least 453 people to get hurt and 8 people to die in 2014. Among these, Berkin Elvan and Elif Çermik were injured by a gas capsule in 2013 and lost their life in 2014. Remaining 6 were injured and deceased in 2014.

As a striking information given in the report, tear gas was used in 224 days within 365 days of 2014. Also, the report showed that most tear gas capsules were used during Kobanê demonstrations during October. During October 2014, tear gas was used in 24 days and in 24 provinces, which caused 18 people to get injured. October was the month in which second most applicants were applied to HRFT.

As the previous years before 2013, beating was the most common torture method in 2014 with 186 applicants (71,5%) (it was 44,6% in 2013). The methods which often requires a condition of an immediate confront with the police were more common in 2013. In 2014, methods such as insulting and humiliating were again among the

most common torture methods. Exposure to chemical substances was the fourth most common method (it was first in 2013 with the percentage of 73,8%).

Table 46: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014 according to the methods of torture

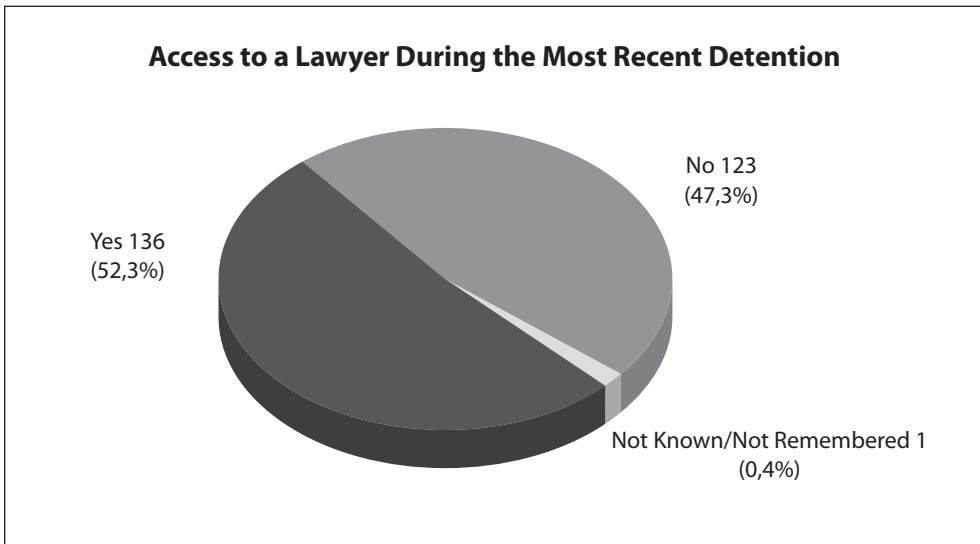
Method of Torture	Number of Applicants	%
Beating	186	71,5
Insulting	170	65,4
Humiliating	147	56,5
Exposure to chemical substances	108	41,5
Other	79	30,4
Threats against the applicant	71	27,3
Continuous hitting of one part of the body	48	18,5
Pressurized/cold water	42	16,2
Forced to witness (visual/audio) torture of others	40	15,4
Death threat	35	13,5
Verbal sexual harassment	34	13,1
Forced to obey nonsensical orders	32	12,3
Other positional torture methods	30	11,5
Physical sexual harassment	29	11,2
Restricted urination and defecation	22	8,5
Sexual harassment	18	6,9
Restricted food and drink	15	5,8
Threats against the relatives/friends	15	5,8
Restricted respiration	10	3,8
Pulling out hair/beard/moustache	8	3,1
Stripping naked	8	3,1
Torture in the presence of relatives/friends	7	2,7
Forced to wait in cold environment	7	2,7
Forced to listen to high volume music or marches	5	1,9
Asked to act as an informer	5	1,9
Blindfolded	5	1,9
Sleep deprivation	4	1,5
Mocked execution	2	0,8
Squeezing testicles	2	0,8
Solitary confinement	2	0,8
Rape	1	0,4
Total	1187	4.5*

**The average number of torture methods a person was subjected to*

2- Legal Procedures During and After Detention

Only 136 of the applicants (52,3%) stated that they were able to meet with a lawyer during their most recent detention (20,4% in 2013 and 51,3% in 2012) (Chart 9). Due to the unrecorded/unofficial detention practices in 2013, there were quite many illegal occurrences which also abolished one's right to meet with a lawyer.

Chart 11: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014 according to their access to a lawyer



171 applicants (65,8%) were released without being taken to a prosecutor. This percentage was:

- 82,3% in 2013
- 47,5% in 2012
- 41,1% in 2011.

80 applicants (30,8%) were released either by prosecution office or court. This percentage was:

- 13,8% in 2013
- 45,8% in 2012
- 47,8% in 2011

8 applicants (3,1%) were arrested. This percentage was:

- 3,4% (7 applicants) in 2013

- 6,8% (16 applicants) in 2012
- 10,7% (24 applicants) in 2011.

Arbitrary detention practices in 2013 can also be seen by the information presented above.

Table 47: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014 according to the situation after their most recent detention

Situation After Most Recent Detention	Number of Applicants		%	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Released without facing a prosecutor	171	414	65,8	82,2
Released by prosecution office or court	80	69	30,8	13,8
Arrested	8	17	3,1	3,4
Unknown/not remembered	1	-	0,8	-
Total	260	500	100,0	100,0

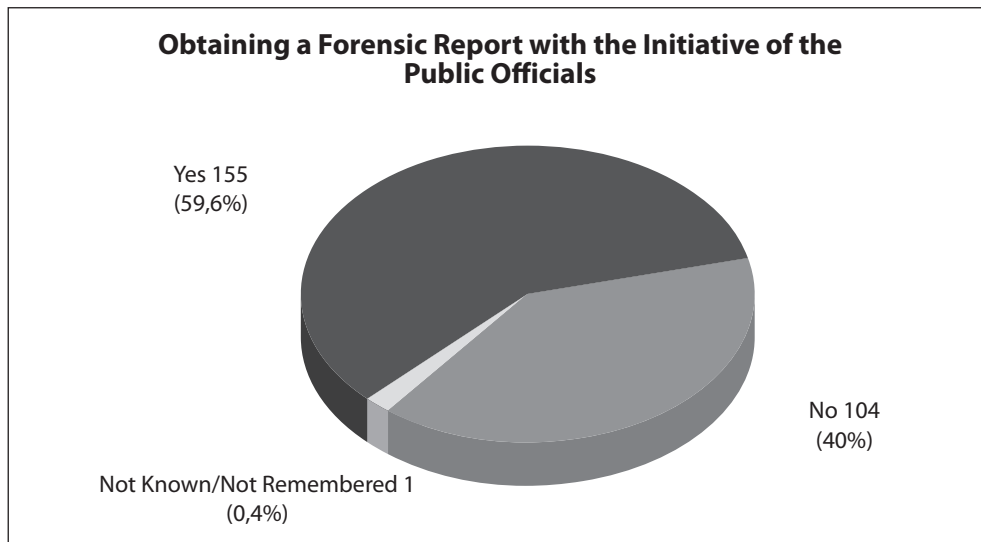
Among those 8 applicants who were arrested after their most recent detention in 2014, only 1 applicant sentenced to prison (Table 48). 137 applicants (52,7%) were not tried (71,8% in 2013) while 83 applicants (31,9%) stated that they do not know whether a lawsuit was filed or not (15,6% in 2013).

Table 48: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014 according to the trial process after their most recent detention

Trial Process After Most Recent Detention	Number of Applicants		%	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Applicants was not tried	137	359	52,7	71,8
Whether a lawsuit was filed or not is unknown	83	78	31,9	15,6
Trial in progress	33	57	12,7	11,4
Applicant was tried, outcome unknown	4	2	1,5	0,4
Applicants was tried, charges were dismissed	2	1	0,8	0,2
Applicant was tried and convicted	1	3	0,4	0,6
Total	260	500	100,0	100,0

155 applicants (59,6%) who had been subjected to torture, obtained a forensic report on the initiatives of public officials after their most recent detention. This percentage was 23,2% (116 applicants) in 2013, 60,6% (143 applicants) in 2012 and 73,2% (164 applicants) in 2011 (Chart 12)

Chart 12: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014 according to whether they obtained a forensic report on the initiatives of public officials



Among these 155 applicants, 145 applicants (93,5%) underwent forensic medical examination in hospitals (81 applicants, 69,8% in 2013) while 9 applicants examined in Branches of the Council of Forensic Medicine (28 applicants, 24,1% in 2013). Only 1 applicant were examined in a health centre (Table 49).

Furthermore, 40 applicants (15,4%) stated that they obtained forensic medical reports on their own initiatives after their most recent detention (91 applicants 18,2% in 2013).

Table 49: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014 according to the place where applicants underwent forensic medical examinations after their most recent detention

Place of Forensic Medical Examination After Most Recent Detention	Number of Applicants		%	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Hospital	145	81	93,5	69,8
Branches of the Council of Forensic Medicine	9	28	5,8	24,1
Council of Forensic Medicine	-	3	-	2,6
Health centre	1	2	0,6	1,7
Unknown/not remembered	-	2	-	1,7
Total	155	116	100,0	100,0

In regards to the statements of these 155 applicants about their forensic medical examinations, three quarters of the applicants (119, 76,8%) stated that law enforcement officers were taken out of the examination room during the medical examination. 100 applicants (64,5%) stated that the physician listened to their complaints, almost half (70 applicants, 45,2%) stated that the physician took proper notes of their complaints and 84 applicants (54,2%) stated that the physician examined them as he/she ought to.

Only 57 applicants (36,8%) stated that the physician prepared a forensic medical report in accordance with the findings (this percentage was around 37% in 2010 and 2011, 51% in 2012 and 43% in 2013). There was a decrease of 6,2% in the percentage of the forensic medical reports in accordance with the findings (Table 50).

Table 50: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014 according to their evaluation of the forensic medical examination after most recent detention

Evaluation of Forensic Medical Examination	Yes	%	No	%	Unknown/not Remembered	%	Total	%
Were the law enforcement officers taken out of the room during the forensic examination?				22,6				100
Did the forensic physician listen to the complaints?	100	64,5	52	33,5	3	1,9	155	100
Did the forensic physician take note of the complaints?	70	45,2	83	53,5	2	1,3	155	100
Did the forensic physician examine as s/ he ought to?	84	54,2	69	44,5	2	1,3	155	100
Did the forensic physician write a report that was in accordance with the findings?	57	36,8	26	16,8	72	46,5	155	100

33 applicants (12,7%) stated that they had been tortured during their interrogation by the court or prosecution office (12 applicants, 2,4% in 2013).

49 applicants (18,8%) filed a separate complaint and applied to prosecution office (122 applicants, 24,4% in 2013) while 174 applicants (66,9%) stated that they did not file any complaints of torture (345 applicants, 69% in 2013).

3- Imprisonment Period

Among those applicants who were tortured in detention in 2014, 31 applicants (11,9%) had an imprisonment history. This percentage was 5% (25 applicants) in 2013. 15 applicants (5,7%) were imprisoned after their most recent detention. As previously mentioned, total of 472 applicants in 2014 had imprisonment history.

C- MEDICAL EXAMINATION

This chapter contains information on the health conditions of the applicants that were obtained through medical histories, physical examinations and other tests carried out by physicians working at the centres along with consultant physicians (psychiatrists, physiatrists, orthopaedists, ophthalmologists, ENT specialists etc.).

1- Medical Complaints of the Applicants

257 of 260 applicants who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014, had at least one physical or psychological complaint. These applicants stated around 129 different 1469 complaints. Looking at the distribution of these problems according to the body systems, majority of the complaints (31,2%) were musculoskeletal (this percentage was 17,2% in 2013 with 451 applicants). Second most common was dermatological complaints with a percentage of 21,4% (28,1% and most common in 2013), and the third was psychological complaints (20,8%) (25,2% and second most common in 2013).

Respiratory and ophthalmological complaints were less common in 2014 than 2013 in which those complaints were common due to the excessive usage of chemical substances by police in demonstrations (Table 51).

Table 51: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014 according to the frequency of their complaints

Systems	Number of Complaints		%	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Musculoskeletal	459	451	31,2	17,2
Dermatological	315	736	21,4	28,1
Psychological	306	659	20,8	25,2
General	90	120	6,1	4,6
Neurological	84	126	5,7	4,8
Ophthalmological	53	161	3,6	6,2

Table 51 Cont.

Respiratory	51	126	3,5	4,8
Ear-Nose-Throat	46	109	3,1	4,2
Digestive	34	77	2,3	2,9
Cardiovascular	17	13	1,2	0,5
Oral-Dental	9	24	0,6	0,9
Urogenital	4	10	0,3	0,4
Endocrinological	1	4	0,1	0,2
Total	1469	2616	100,0	100,0

Most common physical complaint was skin discolourisation with 99 applicants (38,1%). This number was:

- 279 applicants (57,2%) in 2013,
- 143 applicants (60,6%) in 2012,
- 75 applicants (33,5%) in 2011.

Five of the ten most common physical complaints in 2014 were orthopedical, such as shoulder ache, backache, neck pain and leg pain, and only this situation could be a research topic. Among those 63 applicants with orthopedical complaints, 53 were detained in outdoors, 31 (49,2%) had been subjected to torture in outdoors, 19 (30,2%) in security directorates, 8 (12,8%) in police stations and 53 of these applicants (84,1%) stated that they had been subjected to beating. This can be evaluated as one of the results of the practices of reverse manacling and twisting arms in order to nullify the person, as it can be deduced from the stories of applicants and the information on press.

Complaints such as headache and fatigue which could be experienced after a trauma, were also among the most common physical complaints (Table 52).

Table 52: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014 according to the frequency of their physical complaints

Ten Most Common Physical Complaints	Number of Complaints		Among the Applicants %		Among the Physical Complaints %	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Skin discolourisation	99	279	38,1	57,2	8,5	14,3
Shoulder ache	63	49	24,2	10,0	5,4	2,5
Trauma marks on the skin	56	63	21,5	12,9	4,8	3,2
Swelling	48	100	18,5	20,5	4,1	5,1
Backache	45	-	17,3	-	3,9	-

Table 52 Cont.

Headache	41	-	15,8	-	3,5	-
Fatigue	36	-	13,8	-	3,1	-
Neck pain	33	-	12,7	-	2,8	-
Neck-Arm pain	33	-	12,7	-	2,8	-
Leg pain	32	-	12,3	-	2,8	-
Other physical complaints	677	-	-	-	58,2	-
Total	1163	-	-	-	100,0	-

Most common psychological complaint was sleeping problems which were stated by 36 of 260 applicants (13,8%) (21,3% in 2013). Ten most common psychological complaints are presented in Table 53.

Table 53: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014 according to the frequency of their psychological complaints

Ten Most Common Psychological Complaints	Number of Complaints		Among the Applicants %		Among the Psychological Complaints %	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Sleeping problems	36	104	13,8	21,3	11,8	15,8
Irritability	24	37	9,2	7,6	7,8	5,6
Anxiety	23	66	8,8	13,5	7,5	10,0
Nightmares	23	55	8,8	11,3	7,5	8,3
Distress	22	34	8,5	7,0	7,2	5,2
Flashback	22	34	8,5	7,0	7,2	5,2
Tension	21	58	8,1	11,9	6,9	8,8
Concentration problems	14	27	5,4	5,5	4,6	4,1
Vigilance	13	-	5,0	-	4,2	-
Irritability caused by police	13	38	5,0	7,8	4,2	5,8
Other psychological problems	95	-	-	-	31,0	-
Total	306	-	-	-	100,0	-

2- Findings of the Physical Examinations

As a result of the physical medical examinations, it was found that 249 of 260 applicants who had been tortured in detention in 2014, had at least one physical finding. Total number of physical findings was 793 and the number of findings per applicant was 3. In 2013, the number of findings per applicant was again 3 (450 applicants, 1371 findings). In the distribution of the findings according to the

systems, oral-dental findings were more common than respiratory findings, contrary to the findings of 2013. Endocrinological and urogenital findings were also found. Findings related to musculoskeletal system were much more common than 2013 since it showed an increase of 15% compared to 2013. Applicants' complaints and the findings of physical medical examinations were in accordance. The differences of findings and complaints between 2013 and 2014 are mainly due to the decreased direct contact of the law enforcers and the protesters in 2014. Again, when the specific conditions of 2013 were considered, this also caused a decrease of 6% in ophthalmological findings (Table 54).

Table 54: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014 according to the physical findings in systems

Systems	Number of Findings		%	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Dermatological	429	790	54,1	57,6
Musculoskeletal	254	233	32,0	17,0
Ophthalmological	35	142	4,4	10,4
Ear-Nose-Throat	25	101	3,2	7,4
Oral-Dental	24	29	3,0	2,1
Respiratory	10	47	1,3	3,4
Digestive	6	17	0,8	1,2
Neurological	5	7	0,6	0,5
Cardiovascular	2	5	0,3	0,4
Endocrinological	2	-	0,3	-
Urogenital	1	-	0,1	-
Total	793	1371	100,0	100,0

When looked in detail, ten most common physical findings (which constitutes 86,1% of all complaints) included five dermatological and five musculoskeletal findings. In 2013, there were seven dermatological and only one musculoskeletal findings in ten most physical findings (Table 55).

Table 55: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014 according to the frequency of their physical findings

Physical Findings	Number of Findings		Among the Applicants %		Among all Physical Findings %	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Skin ecchymosis	151	261	58,1	58,0	19,0	19,0
Skin erosion	79	42	30,4	9,3	10,0	3,1
Muscular pain and sensitivity	63	54	24,2	12,0	7,9	3,9
Oedema	53	85	20,4	18,9	6,7	6,2
Scar tissue	51	86	19,6	19,1	6,4	6,3
Pain and restricted movement in shoulders	37	-	14,2	-	4,7	-
Scabbing of the skin	30	114	11,5	25,3	3,8	8,3
Pain and restricted movement in neck	25	-	9,6	-	3,2	-
Pain and restricted movement in waist	21	-	8,1	-	2,6	-
Pain and restricted movement in knees	21	-	8,1	-	2,6	-
Other physical findings	262	-	-	-	33,0	-
Total	793	1371	-	-	100,0	-

3- Psychiatric Symptoms and Findings

Among those 260 applicants who had been tortured in detention in 2014 and evaluated by a psychiatrist or psychologist, total of 533 symptoms were found in 51 applicants (19,6%). Two most common symptoms and findings were sleeping problems and anxiety as similar to the previous years (Table 56).

Table 56: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014 according to their psychiatric symptoms and findings

Psychiatric Symptoms and Findings	Number of Symptoms and Findings	Among the Applicants %	Among all Symptoms and Findings %
Difficulties in falling or staying asleep	35	68,6	6,6
Anxiety	30	58,8	5,6
Irritability and/or easy outburst	25	49,0	4,7

Table 56 Cont.

Recurrent and distressing recollections of the traumatic event	21	41,2	3,9
Intense psychological distress at exposure to stimuli associated with the trauma	21	41,2	3,9
Intense physiological reactions to stimuli associated with the trauma	20	39,2	3,8
Flashback experiences and acting or feeling as if the traumatic event was recurring	20	39,2	3,8
Recurrent and distressing nightmares of the traumatic event	20	39,2	3,8
Hypervigilance	18	35,3	3,4
Difficulties in concentration	18	35,3	3,4
Efforts to avoid activities, places or people that arouse recollection of the trauma	17	33,3	3,2
Feelings of detachment or estrangement from others	16	31,4	3,0
Increase or decrease in sleep duration	16	31,4	3,0
Agitation (irritability, hyperactivity)	15	29,4	2,8
Depressive mood	14	27,5	2,6
Fatigue/weakness, energy shortage	14	27,5	2,6
Exaggerated startle responses	14	27,5	2,6
Sense of foreshortened future	14	27,5	2,6
Changes in appetite/weight (increase or decrease)	14	27,5	2,6
Response of intense fear, helplessness or horror to the traumatic events experienced or witnessed	13	25,5	2,4
Somatic anxiety symptoms (palpitation, distress, sweating etc.)	13	25,5	2,4
Memory impairment	12	23,5	2,3
Markedly diminished interest or participation in significant events	12	23,5	2,3
Muscular tension	11	21,6	2,1
Inattentiveness, lethargy	11	21,6	2,1
Hopelessness, desperation	10	19,6	1,9
Efforts to avoid thoughts, feelings or conversations associated with the trauma	10	19,6	1,9
Difficulties in decision making	8	15,7	1,5
Reduction in awareness of surrounding environment	8	15,7	1,5
Feelings of worthlessness and low self-esteem	7	13,7	1,3

Table 56 Cont.

Inability to remember key aspects of the trauma	7	13,7	1,3
Blunted affect (or bluntness)	6	11,8	1,1
Dysphoric mood	5	9,8	0,9
Derealisation	4	7,8	0,8
Depersonalization	4	7,8	0,8
Feelings of guilt	4	7,8	0,8
Decrease in sexual interest	4	7,8	0,8
Anhedonia, apathy	4	7,8	0,8
Hallucinations	2	3,9	0,4
Suicidal thoughts and/or attempts	2	3,9	0,4
Negative symptoms (affective bluntness, superficiality, avolition)	2	3,9	0,4
Hyperactivity, increased intentional activity	2	3,9	0,4
Diminished psychomotor activities	2	3,9	0,4
Expansive mood	1	2,0	0,2
Compulsion	1	2,0	0,2
Hallucinations (visual, audio, tactile, smell)	1	2,0	0,2
Convulsive faint	1	2,0	0,2
Obsession	1	2,0	0,2
Tics (Vocal, Motor)	1	2,0	0,2
Disorganized speech or behaviour	1	2,0	0,2
Hallucinations (visual, audio, tactile)	1	2,0	0,2
Total	533	-	100,0

4- Diagnoses

The evaluation of diagnoses involved 252 applicants (out of 260 applicants who were tortured in detention in 2014) who were diagnosed throughout 2014. There were 83 different and total of 498 diagnoses which included 440 physical and 58 psychological diagnoses.

Three most common physical diagnoses in 2014 were the same as 2013. Soft tissue trauma was the most common physical diagnosis with 208 applicants, 82,5% (315 applicants, 69,7% in 2013, 157 applicants, 70,4% in 2012, 141 applicants, 65,6% in 2011). The percentage of this diagnosis reached its peak in 2014 and it should be evaluated with all complaints, findings, examinations and expert opinions, in order to observe the direct results of the practices of torture. Diagnoses related to shoulders were among the most common due to the severely violent detention and arresting practices of police.

There were 2 diagnoses of fractured nasal bone (os nasale fracture) in 2014 (16 in 2013, 7 in 2012 and 5 in 2011). There were 22 diagnoses of fracture in other bones of the body (49 in 2013, 10 in 2012 and 6 in 2011) (Table 57).

Table 57: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014 according to the frequency of the most common physical diagnoses

Ten Most Common Physical Diagnoses	Number of Applicants		%	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
Soft tissue trauma	208	315	82,5	69,7
Cuts or bruises on the skin	57	105	22,6	23,2
Fractured bone	22	49	8,7	10,8
Myopia-Hypermetropia	9	24	3,6	5,3
Gastroesophageal reflux	7	-	2,8	-
Tendinitis-Bursitis in shoulder, Lumber Discopathy, Chondromalacia Patella	each 6	-	7,2	-
Impingement Syndrome, Cervical Discopathy, Subconjunctival bleeding	each 5	-	6,0	-
Periorbital Ecchymose, Asthma Bronchiale, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)	each 4	-	4,8	-
Peritendinitis in Supraspinatus Tendon, Meniscopathy, Traumatic Conjunctivitis, Tension-type headache, Shoulder trauma	each 3	-	6	-
Oedema in Supraspinatus Tendon, Nerve Root and Plexus Disorders, Allergic Conjunctivitis, Bronchitis, Knee trauma, Myalgia, Non-specific inflammation in knee Vertigo, Bone Marrow Edema, Os Nasale Fracture Dermatitis, Peripheral Neural Injury, Ambustion	each 2	-	10,4	-
Other diagnoses	51	-	20,2	-
Total	440	-	-	-

68 of 260 applicants (26,2%) who had been tortured in detention in 2014, were evaluated by a mental health specialist and 49 applicants (72,1%) were diagnosed with at least one disorder. Among 15 different and total of 58 diagnoses; Acute Stress Disorder and Acute Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder were the most common diagnoses (each 12 applicants, 20,7%) followed by Chronic Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (9 applicants, 15,5%).

- Among 12 applicants who were diagnosed with Acute Stress Disorder, traumatic torture experience was the only etiological factor for 10 applicants, while it was one of the etiological factors for 1 applicant and it aggravated or inflamed the pathological situation for 1 applicant,

- All applicants who were diagnosed with Acute Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, traumatic torture experience was the only etiological factor,
- Among 9 applicants who were diagnosed with Chronic Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, traumatic torture experience was the only etiological factor for 7 applicants, one of the etiological factors for 1 applicant and it aggravated or inflamed the pathological situation for 1 applicant.

The distribution of 58 diagnoses determined in 49 applicants is given in Table 58.

Table 58: The distribution of applicants to the HRFT's Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres who were subjected to torture in detention in 2014 according to the frequency of the psychiatric diagnoses

Psychiatric Diagnoses	Number of Applicants	%
Acute stress disorder	12	20,7
Acute post-traumatic stress disorder	12	20,7
Chronic post-traumatic stress disorder	9	15,5
Major depressive disorder, recurrent	5	8,6
Other anxiety disorders	4	6,9
Major depressive disorder, sole episode	4	6,9
Adjustment disorder	3	5,2
Mixed anxiety-depressive disorder	2	3,4
Post-traumatic stress disorder (late onset)	1	1,7
Sexual desire, arousal disorders and sexual dysfunctions	1	1,7
Dissociative disorder	1	1,7
Bipolar mood disorder	1	1,7
Generalized anxiety disorder	1	1,7
Schizophrenia	1	1,7
Other psychotic disorders	1	1,7
Total	58	100,0

401 of 498 diagnoses (80,4%) which were determined for 260 applicants who were tortured in detention, traumatic torture experience was the only etiological factor. It was one of the etiological factors for 36 diagnoses (7,2%) while it aggravated or inflamed the pathological situation for 30 diagnoses (6%). Etiological factors were not determined for 6 diagnoses (1,2%). For 25 diagnoses (5%), a connection between the trauma and the pathology were not found.



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